



Joint CPF Message

Fostering Partnerships to Build Coherence and Support for Forest Landscape and Ecosystem Restoration

Deforestation and land degradation are major causes of biodiversity loss. They significantly reduce the productivity of the natural assets upon which the well-being of humanity relies, and consequently, pose serious obstacles to achieving the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). We, the Collaborative Partnership on Forests (CPF), strongly feel that a collective goal should be pursued to reduce deforestation and forest degradation while shifting toward a culture of restoration and sustainable management of natural resources.

An estimated area of two billion hectares of deforested and degraded landscapes globally are potentially suitable for restoration of which 75% are suitable for implementing multiple use. This highlights the need and opportunity for ecosystem restoration and sustainable land and water management practices to be integrated into a landscape approach.

In the last few years, the international community has set multiple targets to halt and reverse land and forest degradation, and promote restoration and sustainable management of landscapes. The 2030 Agenda on Sustainable Development and its 17 SDGs build on global goals agreed under the Rio Conventions, like the Aichi Biodiversity Targets, land degradation neutrality, and ecosystem-based adaptation and climate change mitigation. Other initiatives and partnerships on restoration include voluntary commitments like the Bonn Challenge, the New York Declaration on Forests, Initiative 20x20 in Latin America, the African Forest Landscape Restoration Initiative (AFR100), and the Asia-Pacific Rainforest Recovery Plan, among others.

The 14 international organizations of the CPF are providing significant support in implementing these targets and commitments through policy support, research, technical and financial assistance to forest landscape and ecosystem restoration efforts. CPF's recent contributions include a special study on forest degradation, the mobilization of funding for restoration efforts in developing countries, establishing the Forest and Landscape Restoration Mechanism (FLRM), implementing a major GEF global programme in 10 countries, and outreach activities and information exchange through the Global Landscapes Forum. CPF organizations are also collaborating amongst themselves and with other partners, including members of the Global Partnership on Forest Landscape Restoration (GPFLR) and the Forest Ecosystem Restoration Initiative (FERI), to promote forest and landscape restoration, and to enhance coherence in approaches and methodologies for implementation.

The CPF is renewing its commitment to the global restoration agenda through integrating policy advocacy, research, technical and financial assistance in its 2017 – 2020 workplan to be anchored in the 2017 – 2030 UN Strategic Plan for Forests. The CPF is a unique platform to promote synergies between its members and partner



organizations for the delivery of multi-convention, multi-sector and multi-benefit projects and programs. CPF can assist parties to the three Rio Conventions in the achievement of their commitments through, e.g. the identification of prioritized actions, coordinated data assessments, , and potential alignment between related restoration targets at the national scale. The CPF can play a role in facilitating reform of fiscal and normative policies to enhance privately-funded restoration efforts. The CPF can also help in mainstreaming restoration activities across sectors to reduce costs and optimize benefits to facilitate the implementation of national restoration plans.

The need for forest landscape and ecosystem restoration is urgent, and the global community must confront the issues and work together. The CPF and its member organizations stand ready to support any country as well as the regional and global initiatives and looks forward to working with partners in those efforts.

