FOREST LANDSCAPE RESTORATION ACCELERATES PROGRESS ON THE AICHI BIODIVERSITY TARGETS

Forest landscape restoration (FLR) supports the interdependence of ecosystems, biodiversity and human needs through a landscape approach. It accelerates action at a scale needed to balance development with life on Earth – to achieve the Vision 2050 for Biodiversity.

Forest Landscape Restoration (FLR) is the ongoing process of regaining ecological functionality and enhancing human well-being across deforested and degraded landscapes, including forests, grasslands, croplands, wetlands, savannahs and other terrestrial and inland water ecosystems.

Underpinned by a landscape approach, FLR is more than planting trees, it is about restoring entire landscapes to meet current and future needs in order to generate multiple benefits over time.

ROAM
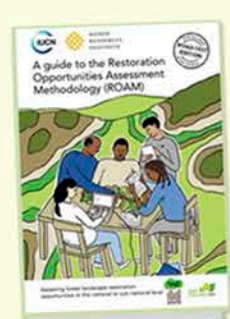
26 countries have used the **Restoration Opportunities Assessment Methodology (ROAM) to assess where and how to restore degraded and deforested landscapes, often with the specific goal of enhancing biodiversity.**

1. Results from ROAM can be used to report on national progress on process-based Aichi Biodiversity Targets. The implementation of FLR strategies identified through ROAM can lead to outcomes that contribute to reporting to the CBD.

2. ROAM FLR assessments provide multiple baselines for monitoring how biodiversity responds to landscape restoration.

FLR is linked to all of the Aichi Biodiversity Targets.

FLR can restore critical habitat for species, increase the genetic diversity of wild and cultivate species, and restore the ecological productivity of degraded land. It can improve soil biodiversity and divert threats to standing natural ecosystems. Productive and mosaic landscapes represent some of the largest areas with restoration opportunities for biodiversity gains. From amongst the Aichi Biodiversity Targets, the strongest links exist with Targets 2, 5, 7, 11, 12, 13, 14 and 15.

2 FLR provides nature-based solutions for food security, poverty reduction, and rural development. ROAM generates the social, economic and biophysical data needed to integrate biodiversity in large scale landscape restoration policies and plans.

5 Using livelihoods-based restoration approaches, FLR addresses drivers of deforestation and degradation, relieving pressure on natural ecosystems and reducing habitat fragmentation by shifting resource consumption patterns to areas better suited for such purposes.

7 FLR in productive and mosaic landscapes includes restoration and sustainable land management to increase ecological productivity (including the yields of agriculture, aquaculture and forestry) and conserving areas important for biodiversity.

11 Enhancement of protected area and buffer zone functionality guides the selection and placement of FLR interventions on the ground and suggests governance options. Also, protected areas are 'reference ecosystems' for ecological restoration options as part of FLR.

12 FLR can restore critical habitat as a component of diversified, landscape-based restoration strategies, improving the conservation status of many threatened species. FLR also addresses drivers of species decline.

13 FLR strategies promote the research and use of genetically diverse agricultural and wild relative species in agricultural-based restoration interventions as a key component of long-term restoration success.

14 FLR assessments generate baselines of commonly modelled ecosystem services and restoration scenarios where the provision of these services will improve. The participation of women, indigenous peoples and local communities, and other vulnerable groups is critical to the assessment process.

15 Many restoration actions can be measured in carbon outcomes, ecosystem resilience and adaptation benefits, contributing to NDCs under the Paris Agreement. FLR also reduces and reverses desertification with direct linkages to the Land Degradation Neutrality Target.

THE BONN CHALLENGE

A global effort to bring 150 million hectares of deforested and degraded landscapes into restoration by 2020 and 350 million hectares by 2030, the Bonn Challenge is the world's most ambitious restoration initiative. To date, there are 56 pledges to restore over 168 million hectares. One declared objective of the Bonn Challenge is to help achieve Aichi Biodiversity Target 15.

150M HECTARES by 2020 → **350M HECTARES** by 2030

IUCN has facilitated assessments of landscape restoration opportunities on over 450 million hectares in 26 countries across the Americas, Africa, and Asia, and these have generated roadmaps for specific restoration actions in over 160 million hectares. These include coordinated strategies to improve, restore and conserve biodiversity and ecosystem services. Many countries have integrated these assessments in their development of national strategies for landscape restoration.

26 COUNTRIES THAT HAVE APPLIED ROAM

FLR CONTRIBUTIONS TO AICHI BIODIVERSITY TARGETS: EVIDENCE FROM ROAM ASSESSMENTS

	2	5	7	11	12	13	14	15
BRAZIL	●	●	●		●		●	●
BURUNDI	●	●	●				●	●
CAMBODIA	●	●	●	●		●	●	●
C.A.R	●		●					●
COLOMBIA	●	●	●				●	●
COSTA RICA	●	●	●					●
COTE D'IVOIRE	●		●				●	●
EL SALVADOR	●	●	●				●	●
ETHIOPIA	●	●	●				●	●
GHANA	●	●	●		●		●	●
GUATEMALA			●					●
HONDURAS		●		●	●			●
INDIA	●	●	●				●	●
INDONESIA	●	●	●				●	●
KENYA	●	●	●				●	●
LAOS	●		●				●	●
MADAGASCAR	●	●	●		●		●	●
MALAWI	●		●				●	●
MEXICO	●	●	●				●	●
MOZAMBIQUE	●	●				●	●	●
MYANMAR	●	●	●				●	●
NICARAGUA			●					●
PERU		●				●		●
RWANDA	●	●	●				●	●
UGANDA	●	●		●			●	●
VIETNAM	●		●	●			●	●

MANTAIN NATURAL ECOSYSTEMS

FOCUS ON LANDSCAPE

RESTORE FUNCTIONALITY

TAILOR TO LOCAL CONDITIONS

INVOLVE STAKEHOLDERS

MANAGE FOR LONG-TERM RESILIENCE

ALLOW FOR MULTIPLE BENEFITS

7 FLR PRINCIPLES

FLR is not site-based, but is applied across large areas. This illustration highlights many of the benefits that result from using a landscape approach to restoration.

FLR generates many ecosystems services such as:
- SOIL FORMATION & REGENERATION
- EROSION PROTECTION
- CLIMATE REGULATION
- WATER REGULATION
- RAINFALL
- FOOD SECURITY
- ENERGY SECURITY
- DISASTER RISK REDUCTION

IUCN