

Call for papers

Enhancing food security through forest landscape restoration

Background

Forest Landscape Restoration (FLR) is a process that aims to regain ecological integrity and enhance human well-being in deforested or degraded forest landscapes. It involves people coming together to restore the function and productivity of degraded forest lands - through a variety of place-based interventions, including new tree managed natural plantings,



regeneration, or improved land management. FLR relies on active stakeholder engagement in the process and can accommodate a mosaic of different land uses, including agriculture, agroforestry, protected wildlife reserves, regenerated forests, managed plantations, and riverside plantings to protect waterways, just to name a few. The set of potential restoration options can vary for example from agroforestry, natural regeneration, woodlots for biomass production, watershed management, silvipastoral systems and restoration of natural forests.

The September 2014 Climate Summit provided a major opportunity to ramp up restoration of deforested and degraded lands, putting achievement of the 150 million hectare by 2020 Bonn Challenge target in sight, and then raising ambitions to restore at least another 200 million hectares by 2030 as part of the Post-2015 Development Agenda and the 2015 Paris climate agreements. It is within this context that IUCN is working across the globe to gather, package, and promote uptake of knowledge and tools and build capacity to support achievements of these restoration targets. To this end, this call particularly focuses on identifying the linkages between FLR and food security and nutrition in order to equip decision makers and practitioner with evidence role FLR can play in enhancing food security.

Forest landscape restoration and food security

There is growing recognition that FLR can be an important strategy for improving food security. Several examples e.g. from West African Sahel, exist of how using a forest landscape restoration approach has resulted in improved soil and water conservation, soil fertility, increase in crop yields and income helping households to gain more access to food and



better nutrition and also adaptation to climate change. Yet, many aspects of how of FLR could contribute to improving agricultural production systems, increasing resilience and reducing vulnerability of rural communities by delivering a range of goods and services are still not adequately addressed in many places. Documenting and analyzing existing case studies, experiences and lessons will provide an opportunity to present critical evidence to policy makers and practitioners to support better design and implementation of forest landscape restoration policies and interventions, which could enhance food security.

We are kindly inviting you to submit research papers which provide empirical and scientific evidence of how forest landscape restoration could contribute to enhance food security. This may be an excellent opportunity to showcase your work and to contribute to support the Bonn Challenge and the New York Declaration on Forests, which seek to restore 150 million hectares by 2020 and 350 million hectares of deforested and degraded forest landscapes by 2030, respectively.

Call aims

Recognizing that enhancing FLR's contribution to food security could be approached through diverse and often divergent conceptual approaches, we would particularly like to focus this effort on the following aspects:

- Case studies based of how forest landscape restoration interventions such as agroforestry, watershed protection, erosion control, natural regeneration, planted forests and woodlots, mangroves restoration, and several others have contributed to enhancing food security.
- Theoretical models, tools and/or frameworks that examine effects of land and forest degradation, population growth, increased risks from climate variability etc. and the role of forest landscape restoration can play in improving food security and nutrition.
- Contextual barriers to realizing the benefits of forest landscape restoration to enhance food security and how these could be addressed through innovations in policy, and practices at national and sub-national level.
- Critical knowledge gaps for which evidence and answer are lacking- what is already being done and what next?

Outputs and desired outcomes

The papers will be published as a report by IUCN and also a special issue of a journal (tbc). The document will help to:

- Catalyze and inform dialogues on how FLR approaches can enhance food security
- Map the status of current knowledge in this area and understand the gaps
- Help in preparing a roadmap for future work on the topic to address the gaps

Submission of abstracts and workshop

We would like interested researchers to submit an extended abstract (maximum 2 pages) by March 10th 2015. Based on the number and nature of submissions, a committee will select the ones that are most suitable for the goals of the publication. The selected authors will be invited for a workshop in Washington, DC to share their work and knowledge among other experts. This workshop should provide ideas to be incorporated in the final article or case study to be used for the final publication.

You may submit your work via email to Salome Begeladze (salome.begeladze@iucn.org) with the subject "Case Studies_FLR and Food Security_YOUR FIRST AND LAST NAME" (your document should be named same way and should be in PDF format).

Important Dates

Submission Deadline: March 10, 2015
Notification of Acceptance and invitation for workshop: March 20, 2015
Workshop in Washington DC, USA: April 7-9, 2015
Final submission of paper: July 1, 2015
Publication Deadline: August 30, 2015

Funding support and conditions

A remuneration of \$3000 will be paid to the author of each published paper. IUCN will also cover the cost of travel and accommodation of authors for the workshop in Washington DC.



The landscape approach

