



Food and Agriculture Organization
of the United Nations



Forest4Climate & People
Putting local people at the centre of decisions about forest
conservation and restoration

**Wildlife
Conservation
Society**

26th SESSION OF THE CONFERENCE OF THE PARTIES TO THE UNFCCC

Side Event

Unlocking investments to deliver equitable nature-based solutions for a green, healthy and resilient future

3 November 2021

11:30 – 12:30 GMT | 12:30 – 13:30 CET

EU Pavilion, Scottish Event Campus, Exhibition Way, Glasgow G3 8YW

Hybrid format

Background

Forests are crucial for reducing greenhouse gas emissions and enhancing climate change adaptation. In particular, around 30% of carbon emissions are already removed by healthy and resilient forests, including those which remained intact over the centuries, and other terrestrial ecosystems each year globally. Healthy and diverse forests are more resilient to climate impacts. However, every year, we convert to other land uses, 10 million hectares of forests, contributing approximately 13% of annual global net carbon emissions.

Nature-based solutions (NbS), including forest and landscape restoration and sustainable forest management have grown in prominence in recent years as potentially being an approach that can help deliver around one-third of global net emission reductions needed by 2030. While NbS in the forest sector may benefit indigenous peoples and local communities, there are also risks of exacerbating poverty and conflict where interventions result in loss of rights and access to resources critical to livelihoods. It is therefore important that due attention is paid to prevent adverse social impacts in order to avoid undermining the success of NbS approaches and resulting climate benefits.

Harnessing the potential of NbS requires finance policy and international finance cooperation that takes into account the real value of forest goods and services. Financial incentives of activities that drive deforestation often outweigh the incentives for sustainable management and/or restoration. In addition, unclear tenure of forested lands leads to conflicts, and governance challenges can mean weak enforcement of laws designed to prevent deforestation. Recognizing the limits of public funds and the increasing importance of private finance to meet all the investment needs will require a shift in macroeconomic policy, fiscal planning, budgeting, investment management and procurement practices.

Objective

This event is jointly organized by the XV World Forestry Congress Secretariat of the Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO) and the Korea Forest Service, the Wildlife Conservation Society (WCS), the Forest 4 Climate & People project and the European Commission. It will bring together state and non-state actors including representatives of government, finance institutions, civil society and local community representatives for a dynamic discussion on the role of forests and forest communities in supporting sustainable business models for NbS. It will highlight why empowering local communities to be full partners in NbS is so vital.

The event will showcase how new and innovative approaches to finance policy and investment can contribute to scaling up climate action towards sustainable forest, agriculture and land use management.

Agenda

Moderator: Dr. Sandy Andelman, Vice President, Conservation Strategy & Partnerships, WCS

5 mins	Opening Session
	<p>Mr. François Roudié, Ambassador of the European Union in El Salvador & to the Central American Integration System</p> <p>Mr. Eunsik Park, Secretary-General, XV World Forestry Congress Secretariat, Republic of Korea</p>
35 mins	Panel discussion
	<p>Mr. Pascal Martinez, Senior Climate Change Specialist, Global Environment Facility (GEF) Secretariat <i>“Supporting the protection of forests for multiple benefits: the vision for GEF-8 and beyond”</i></p> <p>Ms. Mette Wilkie, Director, Forestry Division, Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO) <i>“Scaling up nature-based solutions in support of the 2030 agenda: a prelude to discussions at the XV World Forestry Congress”</i></p> <p>Hon. Dr Baomiavotse Vahinala Raharinirina, Minister of Environment and Sustainable Development, Madagascar <i>“Reforming policy to deliver effective and equitable forest management as a NbS”</i></p> <p>Voices from the forest - video presentation from local people at the forest frontier</p> <p>Hon. Dr. Jeanne D’Arc Mujawamariya, Minister of Environment, Republic of Rwanda</p>
15 mins	Questions/input from the floor
3 mins	Way forward and closing
	<p>Mr. Peter Csoka, Associate Secretary-General, XV World Forestry Congress Secretariat, FAO</p>

For further information, kindly contact Simmone Rose: Simmone.Rose@fao.org

Related websites:

www.fao.org

<https://www.wcs.org>

<http://forest4climateandpeople.bangor.ac.uk>

https://knowledge4policy.ec.europa.eu/organisation/dg-intpa-dg-international-partnerships_en

<https://wfc2021korea.org>