



GLF Bonn 2019

Rights in the landscape

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GLF BONN 2019: TOWARD A RIGHTS-LED TRANSFORMATION OF SUSTAINABILITY

In 2019 the Global Landscapes Forum (GLF) will focus the world's attention on the fundamental importance of rights to address the current environmental crisis. Linking people to landscapes, the GLF will explore the essential contributions of indigenous peoples, local communities, and rural and indigenous women and youth in achieving the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) and the Paris Agreement targets on climate change, highlighting the transformative role of rights and rights-based approaches in securing a more just, sustainable and prosperous future for all. Woven across the year's events, these priorities will form the centerpiece of the annual conference in Bonn, Germany – to be held on June 22–23 alongside the intersessional climate talks – making it the world's single largest forum on rights and sustainable landscapes.

To catalyze social and environmental transformation, the GLF is structured as a co-learning process incorporating the voices, knowledge and priorities of socially, economically and politically marginalized groups in the development of land-based solutions to climate change, low emissions development and global sustainability. By recognizing rural and indigenous peoples as rights-holders and bearers of solutions, as opposed to mere “beneficiaries” of proposed interventions within their own landscapes, the GLF aims to foster new forms of collaboration, anchored in a common understanding that justice and equity are essential to sustainability.

Policies and investments that recognize the importance of traditional knowledge, tenure security and the right to self-determination are essential for sparking progress. Strengthening the ability of indigenous peoples, local communities, and rural and indigenous women and youth to play a role in the sustainable use and governance of the world's landscapes is a social, economic and environmental urgency.

Global Landscapes Forum

The Global Landscapes Forum (GLF) is a multi-stakeholder platform with a global secretariat led by CIFOR and core funding provided by the Government of Germany. The GLF accelerates action towards the creation of productive, prosperous, equitable and climate-resilient landscapes and the achievement of the UNFCCC Paris Agreement and Sustainable Development Goals (Agenda 2030). Charter members: Agronomique pour le Développement (CIRAD), Center for International Forestry Research (CIFOR), Conservation International, Ecoagriculture Partners, Evergreen Agriculture, Forest Stewardship Council (FSC), Global Environment Facility (GEF), Indigenous Peoples Major Group (IPMG), International Center for Tropical Agriculture (CIAT), International Centre for Integrated Mountain Development (ICIMOD), IFOAM - Organics International, International Network for Bamboo and Rattan (INBAR), International Union of Forests Research Organization (IUFRO), Rainforest Alliance, Rare, Rights and Resources Initiative (RRI), United Nations Environment Programme (UN Environment), Wageningen Centre for Development Innovation, part of Wageningen Research, World Agroforestry, World Wide Fund for Nature (WWF) Germany, Youth in Landscapes Initiative, World Bank Group

Funding partners



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GLF Bonn 2019 objectives:

- To amplify the transformational role of rights in identifying and implementing sustainability solutions;
- To advance the adoption of a rights-based approach to sustainability, including the launch of a new collaborative partnership to establish a gold standard on this approach; and
- To create a new global narrative that recognizes indigenous peoples and local communities as bearers of rights and solutions to our common challenges.

CONTEXT

Indigenous peoples and local communities are suffering some of the worst impacts of global warming and unsustainable development, despite their landscapes being among the best conserved. The recent introduction of the Local Communities and Indigenous Peoples Platform at the UNFCCC reaffirms the importance of these stewardship practices for their potential to transform development trajectories, address climate change, and to further the SDGs. This includes both global and local efforts, such as integrated landscape approaches.

The effectiveness of indigenous peoples' and local communities' contribution to reach global goals depends on whether their rights are recognized and respected, allowing them to continue to sustainably manage territories, while their knowledge and experiences are replicated and scaled up. Yet, despite the rights of these groups are recognized in international agreements, they have not been widely implemented. Even when these rights have been formalized, challenges and threats to their security continue, at times limiting people's ability to exercise and defend these rights, and allowing for the legal and illegal intimidation of their leaders and communities. Furthermore, the IPCC's October 2018 report on limiting global warming to 1.5 degrees Celsius, a global call to transform our engagement with the planet, presented highly technical solutions that underplay the connection between rights and climate change. This trend undermines the central role that indigenous peoples and local communities should play in the transformation required to change the planet's environmental and developmental trajectories.

Building on this momentum and on the Forum's dedication to highlight innovative ideas and solutions, strengthen knowledge and action, and foster mutual trust and collaboration, the GLF aims to make this year a turning point for how rights, traditional knowledge and proposed solutions from the ground are respected, considered and implemented in policy, action and investment cycles globally. The Forum will seek the widespread adoption of a rights-based approach to sustainability that recognizes and protects rural and indigenous rights to territory, resources and participation in their governance. Local and indigenous groups must play a central role in this paradigm shift.

As in its other events, the GLF will bring together indigenous peoples, local communities, scientists, government officials, the corporate sector, academia, youth representatives and civil society in a unique collaborative space, free from the political constraints, bureaucratic structures and power dynamics of other international fora. To address the challenges of bringing different systems of knowledge and understanding into conversation and collaboration, the Forum will create a space for transformational learning where participants will be invited to step back and reflect on how they consider and approach pressing issues. Through this process, actors can co-learn through better understanding their own positions, perspectives and perceptions as well as those of other actors. This knowledge can then be used to foster more meaningful and effective partnerships, avoid and overcome potential conflicts, and advance global inclusivity and understanding.

GUIDING THEMES AND TOPICS**Community solutions: local landscape management for increased sustainability**

This theme will showcase a variety of community-led and locally-defined initiatives and approaches to landscape restoration, biodiversity protection, forest management and other activities, which can be put into practice more broadly around the world. To implement solutions and strategies at scale, this will also include collaborative arrangements between communities and the private sector, UN agencies, civil society organizations and governments.

Putting women at the center: the roles and challenges of women in sustainable landscapes

This theme will feature initiatives and experiences of women, including the unique challenges they face, their aspirations and the lessons they have learned. It will also include discussions of best practices for women's inclusion and empowerment in policies, programs, business models and strategies for sustainable landscapes.



Promoting land tenure reform and supportive legal frameworks across levels and sectors

This theme will explore best practices in policymaking, investment, and local and national governance for land reform policies – and policy coherence – relating to tenure rights of indigenous peoples and local communities. It will showcase community initiatives for land recognition, including community mapping and advocacy efforts. Case studies will focus on the process of securing land rights in various countries.

Recognizing and addressing the challenges in securing and enhancing the land rights of indigenous peoples and local communities

This theme will allow indigenous and community groups representatives to showcase their challenges in securing land rights, looking also at related issues such as food security and sovereignty, sustainable management of resources, and restoration. Participants will also discuss initiatives and concrete actions that relevant actors and stakeholders need to take to address barriers and challenges.

Community-led and co-managed conservation: setting the ground for a rights-based approach to Protected Areas

The creation and management of Protected Areas in landscapes stewarded by indigenous peoples and local communities is key for global sustainability targets. Yet, despite evidence that conservation initiatives will only succeed in areas where communities have secure land, resource tenure and participation rights, some initiatives have been introduced in landscapes where conflicts exist. This theme will bring together indigenous and community representatives, scientists, and practitioners, to collaboratively set the ground for a rights-based reconceptualisation of how conservation initiatives are established and managed. This will seek to respect community rights, their livelihoods and priorities for well-being, and in doing so, enhance conservation outcomes by learning from and scaling up their stewardship practices.

The role of faith-based organizations and initiatives in securing rights

The ongoing effort by the Interfaith Rainforest Initiative and the recent introduction of the Amazon Synod of Bishops illustrates the continuous interest across faith-based organizations in creating awareness of and supporting initiatives focusing on the rights of indigenous peoples and local communities to their territories and cultures. Participants will share their experiences to discuss where and how these initiatives may have the greatest impact in supporting the recognition and respect of rights. Importantly, they will also propose solutions to ensure that communities play an effective role within these initiatives.



Developing a 'gold standard' in rights-based approaches to sustainable landscapes

This theme will identify lessons and best practices for rethinking safeguards that overcome the disregard for rights as well as the criminalization and persecution of activists. It will seek to reframe safeguards as ways to empower communities, as opposed to tools to discourage negative impacts, and see this new framing reflected in policy. With this in mind, partnerships can be built to accelerate the common adoption of a 'gold standard' in rights-based approaches to sustainable landscapes.

Addressing the growing threats of retaliation, violence and criminalization to indigenous peoples, local communities, women and youth claiming their rights

Crucial to the development of the gold standard, this theme will focus on emerging political narratives that risk minimizing political space for legitimate civil society engagement in many countries, and the growing threat of violence that rural and indigenous communities face. Participants will discuss ways to counteract the rise of populist agendas, opportunities to enhance coordination and collective action, and tools and strategies for inspiring societal support.

Technology and landscape management: innovations to protect rights and sustainable livelihoods

This theme will explore how innovative initiatives and technologies are being harnessed to advance the rights and livelihoods of indigenous and community groups. The spectrum could range from blockchain technology providing fair benefits in supply chains to getting remote areas on the grid through renewable energy, and from communities using drones to monitor landscape boundaries to new techniques supporting climate change adaptation and mitigation in vulnerable landscapes.

Integrating and mainstreaming traditional knowledge and practices in sustainable landscape management and restoration

Local leaders in landscapes as well as scientists, policymakers, research institutions and environmental organizations will engage in interactive exchanges on the critical role and importance of traditional knowledge. They will discuss initiatives to promote and integrate local know-how into their work on sustainable landscapes, including pathways to inform policies and strategies.

Financing community-based solutions: good practices, partnerships and new methods

Participants will showcase efforts in financing community-based solutions. They will discuss actions for scaling up direct access to financing for indigenous peoples and local communities and opportunities to strengthen local partnerships while ensuring sustainable livelihoods and well-being are always taken into account. This theme will also showcase innovative, community-centered business and finance models and supply chains for potential replication and wider implementation.

YOUTH

Social consciousness and global mindedness is growing with each new generation, resulting in more and more young people eager to address our contemporary environmental challenges. Today, millions of young people are taking to the streets, walking out of classrooms, developing innovative projects and changing their diets in order to create the future they want.

As young people take a stand in countries around the world, it is vital that the change they demand reverses inequality and promotes equity. To empower and train young leaders to adopt rights-based approaches in climate action and champion rights, the GLF and the Youth in Landscapes Initiative will host a 1–2 day workshop focusing on environmental justice in collaboration with key partners.

LEARNING

Fear not long monologues and PowerPoints, as dedicated learning activities at GLF Bonn 2019 will revolve around person-to-person engagement. The GLF Landscape Learning Pavilion will feature 12 highly interactive mini-workshops where participants can learn from indigenous community members, farmers, leaders, entrepreneurs, investors, journalists and more. The pavilion will encompass a world of views and knowledge, with sessions featuring landscape restoration and governance, multi-stakeholder dialogues, cultural landscapes and much more.

EVENT STRUCTURE

The GLF Bonn 2019 annual conference will take place on 22–23 June, 2019 at the Maritim Hotel, midway through the UNFCCC SB 50 meetings in Bonn. It will be the largest conference on rights in 2019. We anticipate approximately 1,500 experienced practitioners from around the world to attend. Other 30,000 people are expected to follow the online digital edition.

The Forum will be moderated by an indigenous youth spokesperson, the Master of Ceremonies, and an Indigenous Peoples' Pavilion will provide insights, information and a series of workshops and inspiring speakers. The event will start with an opening welcome ceremony, followed by the Voices of the Landscape plenary, showcasing local and traditional solutions to global challenges through forest conservation, landscape restoration and biodiversity conservation, among other initiatives.

The other plenaries, interactive sessions, Landscape Talks, side events, launchpads, Digital Summits and participant engagement activities will cover different aspects of how rights play into the various issues within the GLF's other four themes (restoration, finance, food and livelihoods, and measuring progress), such as the role of rights in agriculture, private investment, supply chains and restoration commitments.



A key event at GLF Bonn 2019 will be the launch of a new collaborative partnership to commence work on establishing a gold standard for rights-based approaches to sustainable landscapes. Aimed to be implemented in 2020, this standard will be supported by empirical evidence from existing efforts such as the Right Energy Partnership with Indigenous Peoples; the use of technology in rights' security (e.g. blockchain, digital custodians, and crypto currency); and rights-based conservation through initiatives such as the Land Rights Now campaign or the new UNFCCC's Local Communities and Indigenous Peoples Platform. Work on the gold standard will continue throughout the year at other GLF events and through its various platforms.

GLF Bonn 2019 will close with the Indigenous Peoples' Reception, celebrating diversity with cultural presentations, performances, music, and highlights of key messages and outcomes from the entire event.

COMMUNICATIONS

The Global Landscapes Forum will leverage its extensive traditional and digital media channels networks to bring international, regional and national attention to the annual forum in Bonn, highlighting key speeches, discussions, work of inspiring participants and commitments announced at the event. The campaign will last two months, covering the pre-, during and post-event stages, latest news, AMA sessions and TV interviews focused on the developing agenda, hosts, speakers and participants.

Landscape News, the GLF news platform, will cover key topics and discussions through long-format pieces and podcasts with a team of global journalists. Compelling pieces will be further translated into German, French and Spanish. Sessions at the venue will be streamed live across GLF social platforms and main website and will include moderators guiding the conversation in livestream chat rooms, interviews with speakers and participants, and digital sessions. A series of capacity building workshops will be curated around the event, ranging from sessions for journalists and communication specialists to youth workshops to nurture the skills and mindsets of tomorrow's leaders.

WAYS TO PARTICIPATE: IN BONN AND ONLINE

The GLF Bonn 2019 agenda aims to create an immersive experience for a global audience, providing a wide range of opportunities to participate: in-person and online, from polls and Q&A sessions to interactive sessions and launches of major new initiatives.

To maximize the outreach and impact of the event and encourage global action on the issues and solutions discussed, GLF Bonn 2019 will be fully livestreamed across the GLF's social media and online platforms, moderated by dynamic hosts who are well-versed in the issues at hand. Complementing the physical event, the GLF digital experience will also feature talks and discussions exclusively produced for online audiences.

To learn more about the many ways to participate by hosting and/or attending various activities – Landscape Talks, plenaries, side-events, Digital Summits, learning courses and more – please visit our [web page](#), or contact the **GLF coordination team** at globallandscapesforumInfo@cgiar.org.

GLF CONFERENCE SPONSORSHIPS

By sponsoring the GLF, your company or organization will contribute to the world's largest forum on sustainable land use and development. Your brand will be associated with a movement that over the past six years has reached more than 230 million people on social media. More than 4,000 organizations, governments, universities, corporations and community groups and 150,000 people from 150 countries have attended GLF conferences. GLF participants and members are the leaders of today and tomorrow. The GLF's youth programs have already had a direct impact on more than 50,000 youth under the age of 35. More than 250 million people have been reached through traditional media, and 4,600 print, broadcast and radio media outlets cover the GLF around the world.

GLF PARTNERSHIP ENGAGEMENT

The GLF builds collaborative efforts to accelerate the transition from a short-term engagement perspective to one that focuses on long-term partnerships for sustainable impact on ecosystems. The GLF partnership mandate includes mobilizing world leaders, scientists, policymakers, global media, the corporate and finance sectors, indigenous communities, and youth and women's groups to accelerate action to build climate-resilient, equitable, prosperous and productive landscapes. It also involves building a community of practice to identify and solve key climate challenges while developing capacity through numerous learning opportunities.

The GLF network platform is effectively positioned to influence and guide traditional investing and promote thought leadership, best practices and active engagement with the purpose of seeing positive systems change.

For all information regarding GLF Sponsorships and Partnership Engagement, including the GLF Charter and GLF Sponsorship Packages, please contact directly **Nevena Bakalar** (n.bakalar@cgiar.org), GLF Networking and Partnership Coordinator.

RIGHTS THROUGHOUT THE YEAR: GLF IN KYOTO, BONN, LUXEMBOURG CITY AND ACCRA

Throughout all of its events in 2019, the GLF will explore the various complexities of rights in landscapes and inspire accelerated action.

GLF Kyoto (13 May) will build up to Bonn by emphasizing the necessity of rights for greater learning and awareness of solutions based on traditional knowledge. In collaboration with the IPMG, GLF Kyoto will showcase case studies from communities around the world on land tenure and customary land-use practices; ways to support rights on the ground; how to exchange knowledge with local communities on the frontline of climate change; and methods for successful partnerships with indigenous and local communities. In Kyoto, work will also commence on identifying best practices to feed into the aforementioned gold standard.

GLF Accra (October - date to be confirmed) will emphasize issues concerning rights in Africa. The role of rights and traditional knowledge will be examined in restoration, sustainable supply chains, conservation, livelihoods and food security across the continent.

The 4th GLF Investment Case will be held in Luxembourg City (30 November) and will unveil innovative investment models and explore lessons from public-private partnerships in sustainable investment. It will also showcase the developments in establishing the gold standard, community-centered business and finance models and supply chains, and the latest technological innovations supporting rights' security.

CONCLUSION

Bringing rights to the forefront of the global dialogue on climate change, sustainable landscapes, and development, is a call to action to re-engage with the current environmental crisis as one that was created by people and can be solved by people. Looking at our planet through the lens of rights also summons a critical appreciation of how humans have engaged with the planet, and highlights the need to learn from those who have been marginalized socially, economically and politically despite the enormous knowledge they hold. Recognizing and upholding the rights of the world's most vulnerable communities can positively transform development frameworks through landscape approaches if partnerships among all actors in landscapes – from youth to world leaders, and from indigenous communities to international organizations – are nurtured and supported.





Photos by Faizal Abdul Aziz/CIFOR, Rifky/CIFOR, Nkumi Mtingwa/CIFOR, Axel Fassio/CIFOR, Marlon del Aguila/CIFOR, Ulet Ifansasti/CIFOR, Pilar Valbuena/GLF, Aulia Erlangga/CIFOR



The Global Landscapes Forum (GLF) is the world's largest knowledge-led multi-sectoral platform for integrated land use, bringing together world leaders, scientists, private sector representatives, farmers and community leaders and civil society to accelerate action toward the creation of more resilient, equitable, profitable and climate-friendly landscapes. The Center for International Forestry Research (CIFOR), UN Environment and The World Bank launched the Forum in Warsaw in 2013, alongside the UNFCCC Conference of Parties (COP). With core funding provided by the Government of Germany, GLF is entering its next five-year phase with the launch of a movement of 1 billion people toward the creation of sustainable landscapes.


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