

Concept note

Food. Nature. People.

A blueprint to build thriving, sustainable food systems.



Photo by Hà Link on unsplash.com



2 SEPT
2021



12.00 - 15.15 UTC

Digital event by CIFOR-ICRAF, organized with help by GLF

Problem

Our world is in crisis. The evidence is clear that humans are causing climate change, biodiversity loss, land degradation, inequalities and a range of intertwined problems that are putting life on earth at risk. At the heart of these challenges is our broken food system, affecting all of us. We need access to nutrient-rich food that supports health and wellbeing, provides employment and income for everyone, including women, Indigenous Peoples and marginalized groups, and ensures that our landscapes are and remain productive in the future.

The interconnectedness of our ecosystems requires a systematic, collaborative approach to solving the food system crisis, especially as we emerge from the Covid pandemic and adjust our consumption to live within planetary boundaries. The current efforts of trying to tackle these challenges incrementally and in isolation mean we are missing opportunities to implement and scale up successful, holistic solutions that foster food production in harmony with nature. To achieve lasting progress towards a better future in line with the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), we need to share knowledge about nature-positive solutions that can produce and provide access to affordable food sustainably and equitably.



Global
Landscapes
Forum



RESEARCH
PROGRAM ON
Forests, Trees and
Agroforestry



Resilient
Landscapes

Solution

The good news is that there are impactful solutions to tackle the food system crisis: nature-positive solutions based on scientific evidence that diversify our food system, build new and equitable markets for a wider range of domesticated crops from wild foods to create value for local and Indigenous communities and the role of forest and trees for creating a sustainable food system.

Transdisciplinary, science-based initiatives across the globe are focused on sustainable and equitable food systems that mitigate and adapt to climate change, remedy biodiversity loss and restore degraded land. A few examples include agroecological transitions in India, the best ways to govern oil palm landscapes in Indonesia, building sustainable cocoa plantations in Côte d'Ivoire and how to manage grazing land in Cameroon.

As small-scale farmers - both women and men - in developing countries produce much of the food we eat, they are by far the world's biggest work force and the stewards of land. It is therefore paramount to work effectively with them, including Indigenous groups as well as the marginalized and landless, to effectively solve the food system crisis.

The digital event will highlight the ways the world can advance progress towards a resilient, people-focused food system by:

- highlighting the bold policy and institutional change needed to support food system transformation;
- showcasing successful efforts of nature-positive solutions for food production;
- offering bold ideas for using forests, trees and other natural systems to build resilience in our food system;
- underscoring the crucial role Indigenous Peoples, local communities and women play in this transition;
- exploring equitable financing needs by creating value for local and Indigenous communities along the food system value chain
- launching a new alliance on nature-positive solutions to inform international landmark initiatives.

Program

Opening Welcome

12.00 – 12.05

Keynote 1

12.05 – 12.15

Keynote 2

12.15 – 12.25

Keynote 3

12.25 – 12.35

Panel Discussion 1**Big ideas – insights from leading policy makers around the world***12.40 – 13.20*

Food production and consumption differs from region to region, depending on rainfall, geography, soil and a host of economic, social and cultural factors. If agriculture is to become more sustainable and equitable, it will be critical to establish the policy frameworks that are appropriate for the conditions and circumstances of different regions. This discussion will hear from some of the policymakers who are enabling this critical transition. The value of this approach is underscored by the premise that working with nature and people – including their networks, relationships, solidarity, knowledge of local people – is a key success factor to sustainably manage land and transform food systems.

Break*13.20 – 13.25***Panel Discussion 2****The Science of Food Sustainability***13.25 – 13.55*

Empowering communities with decision-making skills, establishing farmer-centered learning systems and putting monitoring tools into the hands of people on the ground: these are among the many innovations to come out of recent research on food systems. This discussion will feature both scientists and practitioners as they look at the surprises and discoveries in research and science that have emerged and are leading to a food-systems transformation that produces food sustainably, equitably and affordably.

Break*13.55 – 14.05***Panel Discussion 3****Accelerating the sustainable food system transition***14.05 – 14.45*

Smallholder farmer initiatives demonstrate some of the fastest changes that are taking place around the world. This panel will feature innovators who are pushing for large-scale transformation of land management for food production. They will present their nature-positive agricultural solutions to the food system crisis. These innovations will be presented alongside sustainable investors who will share insights into how innovative farmers can accelerate their businesses and ideas with financing.

Next steps and a call to action*14.55 – 15.05***Closing remarks***15.05 – 15.15*

CIFOR-ICRAF

The Center for International Forestry Research (CIFOR) and World Agroforestry (ICRAF) envision a more equitable world where trees in all landscapes, from drylands to the humid tropics, enhance the environment and well-being for all. CIFOR and ICRAF are CGIAR Research Centers.

cifor-icraf.org



Global
Landscapes
Forum



RESEARCH
PROGRAM ON
Forests, Trees and
Agroforestry



Resilient
Landscapes