

## ***Scaling Regenerative Agriculture: Lessons from Around the World***

**Date:** Wednesday, 9 November 2022, 11:00 – 12:00hrs EET

**Venue:** Sustainable Agriculture of the Americas Pavilion (Blue Zone)

**In-person registration:** <https://www.eventbrite.com/e/453931670847>

### **Background**

For decades, industrialized agriculture has dominated global food systems, with monocropping and chemical inputs to boost production without considering the soil and nutrition. The food sector causes a third of the world's anthropogenic GHG emissions. There is rampant land and soil biodiversity depletion, poor focus on nutrition, increased social issues, gender biases, economic disparity and more. In 2022, it cannot be more apparent how climate change is impacting the food systems across the globe. China, the world's largest wheat producer, suffered from the worst yield after rains delayed crop planting. North America and Europe are on the verge of declining wheat production due to reduced rainfall, while parts of Africa suffered from the worst drought in nearly 40 years.

The scale of the challenge of climate action in agriculture requires unprecedented levels of investment, where national and international public resources are often not sufficient to meet the demands and new opportunities. Low-carbon private and public investments are required to boost the transformation of agriculture in the Americas on the path to sustainability, climate resilience, and reduction of emissions.

Agriculture and forestry can play a crucial role in achieving global decarbonisation targets. In 2014, the IPCC estimated that these two sectors account for approximately a quarter of anthropogenic emissions. The implementation of sustainable agricultural practices is necessary for the industry to successfully reduce emissions, adapt to changes in weather patterns, and withstand the pressures placed on food security by population growth.

Estimates suggest that between USD 7 billion and 7.6 billion are required per year for adaptation measures in the Agriculture, Food and Forestry sectors. Despite the need for more finance flows directed towards addressing climate impacts in these sectors, it accounts for USD37.3bn or just over 3% of the climate-aligned bond universe.

In response to this urgent challenge, the Global Alliance for a Sustainable Planet (GASP) has partnered with like-minded stakeholders that have been working diligently to actualize the vision of sustainable and climate resilient agricultural practices, while challenging traditional food production, brands, and systems with catalytic thought leadership and innovative partnerships. The private sector has been stepping up to deliver the necessary investments in sustainable activities that reduce pressure on forests and farmlands. Evidence-based solutions for new business models and investments in diverse forest and tree crop value chains are key, benefitting rural livelihoods and economies, while minimizing environmental impacts.

### **Objectives**

On the sidelines of COP27, this high-level event will bring together key Government, Civil Society, and C-Suite leaders in climate innovation from across the planet to showcase ground-shifting thought leadership and path-breaking ideas that accelerate the scaling of regenerative agriculture across the planet.

**Global Alliance for a Sustainable Planet**

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## **Agenda and Speakers**

- 1. Opening Remarks (5 min.):** Mr Satya S. Tripathi, Secretary-General, GASP
- 2. Panellists (25 min.):**
  - i. Honourable Vickram Bharrat PM, Minister of Natural Resources, Co-operative Republic of Guyana
  - ii. Dr. Erik Solheim, President, Green Belt and Road Institute
  - iii. Dr. Erika Styger, Director, Climate-Resilient Farming Systems Program, Department of Global Development, Cornell University
  - iv. Dr. Ravi Prabhu, Director General, CIFOR-ICRAF
- 3. Q&A (25 min.):** Moderated interactive session with statements from the floor and questions from the audience
- 4. Concluding Remarks (5 min.):** Mr. Satya S. Tripathi, Secretary-General, GASP

## **Profiles**

### **Mr. Satya S. Tripathi, Secretary-General of the Global Alliance for a Sustainable Planet (Moderator)**



A development economist, lawyer and changemaker with over 40 years of varied experience, Mr. Tripathi is the Chancellor of Kalinga Institute of Social Sciences - the world's largest academic institution dedicated exclusively to indigenous people and cultures. He is also a Senior Distinguished Fellow on Innovative Finance at the World Agroforestry Centre. He has served with the UN for over two decades in key positions across the planet. He was the UN Assistant Secretary-General, Head of New York Office at UN Environment and Secretary of the UN Environment Management Group.

**About GASP** - Global Alliance catalyses virtuous partnerships of governments, international organizations, entrepreneurs, earth champions, and global investors to tackle the world's most pressing challenges, including climate adaptation focusing on resilient ecosystems, productive livelihoods, people, and the planet.

## **Honorable Vickram Bharrat PM, Minister of Natural Resources, Co-operative Republic of Guyana**



period 2016-2019.

Honorable Minister Bharrat PM has been an educator, mentor, and entrepreneur for over fifteen years. Minister Bharrat's professional life commenced with him serving in the capacity of Technical Officer at the Ministry of Local Government and the Ministry of Health. He also held the post of Project Manager with the United Nations Development Programme. Following his appointment as the Minister of Natural Resources and a Member of Guyana's Twelfth Parliament in 2020, he has been assigned oversight of the Guyana Geology and Mines Commission, Guyana Forestry Commission, Guyana Gold Board and the Department of Energy. He also previously served in the Eleventh Parliament as a Parliamentarian for the

## **Dr. Erik Solheim, President, Green Belt and Road Institute**



Dr. Erik Solheim is the current President of the Green Belt and Road institute. He previously was the Executive Director of the United Nations Environment Programme. Prior to that, he chaired the Development Assistance Committee of the Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development, a post he held since 2013, and served as UN Environment's Special Envoy for environment, conflict and disaster.

From 2007 to 2012, he held the combined portfolio of Norway's Minister of the Environment and International Development, and from 2005 to 2007 served as Minister of International Development. During his time as Minister, Norwegian aid reached 1%, the highest in the world. Dr. Solheim also put into place the Nature Diversity Act, considered to be Norway's most important piece of environmental legislation in the last 100 years.

## **Dr. Erika Styger, Director, Climate-Resilient Farming Systems Program, Department of Global Development, Cornell University**



Dr. Erika Styger is a tropical agronomist and the director of the Climate-Resilient Farming Systems Program in the Department of Global Development at Cornell University. The program mission is to improve tropical smallholder farming systems through ecological approaches for greater productivity and resilience to climate change. It is a project-based program, combining research and community-based development approaches. Dr. Styger collaborates with partners ranging from local community-based organizations to international organizations in Africa, Asia, Latin America, and the Caribbean, and most recently, in the USA.

Dr. Styger is a development practitioner, scientist, educator and mentor. She specializes in tropical cropping and farming systems, agroforestry, agrobiodiversity, alternatives to slash-and-burn agriculture, land regeneration, adaptation to climate change, participatory approaches, and for the past 15 years has focused on the System of Rice Intensification (SRI), an agro-ecological and climate-smart rice production methodology. She is also a Faculty Fellow in the Cornell Atkinson Center for Sustainability.

**Dr. Ravi Prabhu, Director General, CIFOR-ICRAF**



Dr. Ravi Prabhu is an accomplished scientist who has engaged in multi-disciplinary research and action in forested landscapes for almost 20 years. He is the Director General at CIFOR-ICRAF.

Dr. Prabhu previously served as the Senior Programme Officer, Forests and Climate Change with the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP) in Nairobi, where he led the UNEP team that contributed to the UN-REDD Programme. He has also worked in various capacities at CIFOR-ICRAF. Prior to his role as Director General, Dr. Prabhu served as Deputy Director General (Research). He has also served on numerous international initiatives and committees, including the Millennium Ecosystem Assessment where he served on the review and editorial team, and the UN Millennium Projects Taskforce 6 on Environmental Sustainability. He received the Queen's Award for Forestry at Buckingham Palace in 2005.