Trees and forests: An investment in climate resilience

CIFOR-ICRAF at UNFCCC COP27

#Tress4Resilience

CIFOR-ICRAF strongly supports the COP 27 goals on enhancing implementation and ambitions, most urgently for highly vulnerable countries in Africa and elsewhere that are now facing urgent threats to food security. We especially call for efforts to enhance the adaptation of forestry, agroforestry and agroecology, as well as increased carbon sequestration and conservation, and the development of inclusive sustainable value chains. Indigenous, local community and smallholder men and women should be at the centre of just solutions, and efforts to not only assure safeguarding against harm but also to move boldly toward rights-based solutions to enable sustainable livelihoods and well-being.

Adaptation through trees and forests for resilience

Trees are an investment in resilience. Forests, trees and agroforestry are critical to adaptation of all sectors (cities, energy, water, agriculture) and food systems, and from landscapes to communities and households. At the same time, forests, agriculture and agroforestry need to be adapted to future climate change by a judicious selection of species, life forms and spacial arrangements. CIFOR-ICRAF supports:

- Fixing of unsustainable food systems worldwide and halt related deforestation/degradation
- Protection of wetlands/peatlands and their irrecoverable carbon
- Ensuring NDCs place more focus on adaptation, including ambitious targets for forestry, agroforestry and agroecology

Agroforestry, agroecology and integrated approaches

CIFOR-ICRAF recognizes the urgent need for the transformation of food systems using agroecological approaches – including especially agroforestry, regenerative agriculture and other adapted forms of agriculture that improve food and nutrition security, support income and livelihood security, enhance biodiversity and ecosystem services, reduce emissions and sequester carbon. Agroecology plays a key role in an increasingly food- and energy-insecure world by focusing on local contexts, emphasizing integrated approaches and scaling. CIFOR-ICRAF supports:

- Recognize the importance of restoring soil health and adopt the Soil Health Resolution.
- Urges inclusion of agroforestry, agroecology and soil health management in workplans and mandates emerging from the Koronivia discussions.
- Supports a framework to monitor, report and verify the impacts of tree-based interventions and agroecological approaches on human and ecosystem health.

Harnessing finance for tree and forest solutions

Financial and capacity resources are not sufficient and need to be massively scaled and equitably distributed, especially to those currently unable to access finance. Climate financing is greatly needed for protecting and enhancing forests, trees and agroforestry, including carbon-rich wetlands. This must be done in a transparent and equitable way that respects the needs, preferences and rights of Indigenous Peoples and local communities and ensures their inclusion in sustainable business and value chains and equitable benefit-sharing mechanisms, as well as also in decision-making processes and forest governance. CIFOR-ICRAF supports:

- Rapidly building the technical, institutional and financial capacities to implement the Glasgow Leaders' Declaration on Forests and Land Use and countries' NDCs and biodiversity conservation action plans.
- Ensuring public and private sector investments are more transparent and equitable, including monitoring of the implementation of the Glasgow Leaders' Declaration on Forest and Land Use and the Paris Agreement.
- Integration of capacity building and evidence and finance requirements of developing countries in the Global Stocktake work programme.

Learn more at:

cifor-icraf.org/climate-resilience/#cop27climate

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CIFOR-ICRAF envisions a world in which people enjoy livelihoods supported by healthy, productive landscapes made resilient through the transformative power of forests, trees and agroforestry.

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