



COP28
UAE

FORESTS, FOOD, CARBON AND CLIMATE

CIFOR-ICRAF at UNFCCC COP28
#Trees4Resilience

Limiting global heating to 1.5°C above pre-industrial levels is still possible. But it will take decisive and immediate actions to cut current CO₂ emissions by 45% by 2030 against 2010 levels to avoid the worst effects of climate change, such as the scorching heat, wildfires and extreme weather events seen in 2023 – which is on track to be the hottest year on record. At the 28th UN climate conference (COP28) in Dubai, United Arab Emirates, leaders will need to make difficult choices to determine the actions that will impact the planet, its people and its environment.

As a global leader on forest, tree and agroforestry landscapes, soil health, and sustainable development, CIFOR-ICRAF meets global challenges head-on through knowledge for action. Our global, multidisciplinary and evidence-based approach seeks to improve human well-being, protect the environment, and increase equity. It is always based on scientific evidence of what works, and what doesn't. We conduct innovative research, strengthen partner's capacity, and facilitate eye-level dialogue and partnerships between countries, global initiatives, and diverse groups of actors to help them design and implement policies and practices that benefit forests, landscapes and people.



FORESTS, TREES AND AGROFORESTRY

CIFOR-ICRAF can showcase knowledge, evidence and skills that support various processes around preserving and restoring forests, trees and agroforestry, including:

- 1 Forest and Climate Leaders' Partnership (FCLP)** – through our support to countries in translating the FCLP into concrete actions and aligning these commitments to existing legal frameworks and increased NDC ambitions.
- 2 Forest, Agriculture and Commodity Trade (FACT) Dialogue** – as host of the Secretariat of this government-to-government dialogue that promotes sustainable trade and development while addressing the climate and biodiversity crisis.
- 3 'Three Basins' initiative** on rainforests established between Brazil, the Democratic Republic of the Congo (DRC) and Indonesia – through our decades of knowledge and data in all three countries on solutions and best approaches for sustainable development, climate mitigation, and ecosystem-based adaptation.
- 4 EU policy on deforestation-free products** – through our many activities that support countries to improve their food systems and related legal frameworks, particularly in the context of CGIAR's [Low Emissions Food Systems](#) initiative and our [Transformative Partnership Platform on Agroecology](#).
- 5 Global Stocktake** to assess how countries are making progress with regard to the Paris Agreement – contributing through our support to countries in their efforts to measure, monitor and report on their forest, peatland and landscape resources.
- 6 Enhanced Transparency Framework (ETF)** – through implementation support based on our [Transparent Monitoring programme](#) and our [Global Comparative Study on REDD+](#) to strengthen their capacity to deliver the first Biennial Transparency Reports due in December 2024.

7 Paris Agreement Article 6 work on voluntary collaboration on emission reduction between countries, as well as on offsets and removals and non-market approaches – through our work on REDD+, high-integrity carbon markets, equitable benefit sharing and other related topics.

8 Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework (GBF)

– through our involvement in biodiversity research and recognition of the central role of biodiversity and functional ecosystems in climate change mitigation and adaptation.

9 Soil health – through our [Soil and Land Health Theme](#) and the [Coalition of Action 4 Soil Health \(CA4SH\)](#), our support for countries to include [soil health in the NDCs](#), and the [Soil Health Resolution](#).

10 Forest carbon markets – by strengthening the science (notably through our 15-year

[Global Comparative Study on REDD+](#)) and building private sector confidence to invest in this market by providing appropriate social and environmental safeguards.

11 Blue carbon – as a [global leader](#) on the science and management of wetlands, peatlands and blue carbon science, bringing together policymakers, practitioners, academia, and the private sector to discuss opportunities and challenges, and through the new Transformative Partnership Platform (TPP) on Blue Carbon.

12 Forest governance – through our typology of deforestation ‘archetypes’ and related policies to facilitate forest governance decisions and a just transition.

13 Resilience – through years of experience working on the adaptation of people and forests to ongoing climate change and the tremendous potential for

small-scale tree holdings to boost ecological and livelihood resilience, food security and nutrition, as well as contribute to NDC targets.

14 TREESAdapt – building a one-stop shop for solutions to support countries and actors in cross-sectoral implementation with trees and forests.

15 Restoration – as a global member of the UN Decade on Ecosystem Restoration and contributor to the UN Decade Monitoring and Best Practices Task Forces and the Scientific Steering Committee, through our specialization in [farmer-centred restoration](#), the [Landscape Restoration Transformative Partnership Platform \(TPP\)](#) and leadership of large restoration initiatives like [Regreening Africa](#).



AGRICULTURE

CIFOR-ICRAF views agriculture – together with forests, trees and agroforestry – as part of one landscape. We support the development of integrated solutions on land use and land use change, including:

[Transformative Partnership Platform \(TPP\) on Agroecology](#)

1 Food Systems Pavilion – COP28 is said to become the “COP of Food Systems”; CIFOR-ICRAF offers knowledge, evidence and skills to

support global partnerships on the investments, technologies and policies which can collectively achieve net-zero, nature-positive, and resilient agrifood and water systems.

2 Soil health (see above)

3 Resilient agriculture – through our expertise in social justice aspects such as ownership of solutions, and equal participation of communities and concerned stakeholders

in decision-making, relating to the Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development’s 2022 [Food Systems Declaration](#).

4 Low-emission food systems – through our work with [Mitigate+](#) and the [Transformative Partnership Platform \(TPP\) on Circular Bioeconomy](#).



CLIMATE TECHNOLOGIES

Technologies such as carbon capture and storage (CCS) and other future technological solutions will be a focus at COP28. CIFOR-ICRAF can significantly contribute to the debate on

offsets and technology-driven efforts by providing answers to important governance questions such as: Who do these technologies serve? who do they benefit? And what are the required

environmental and social costs and trade-offs for these transformations to happen? We also can offer important solutions in the area of land degradation monitoring.



GLOBAL LEADERSHIP ON FOREST AND LANDSCAPES

As an honest broker, CIFOR-ICRAF makes evidence-based climate- and development-relevant knowledge for action the centrepiece of informed climate, land use, and development decisions at farm, national, regional and global levels. Our global, multidisciplinary and systems-based approach seeks to improve human well-being, protect the environment, and increase equity. We support:

- 1 Holistic, inclusive approaches**
Our stance is based on comprehensive 'systems' views – including the rights of Indigenous Peoples and local communities – as pathways to efficient, effective and equitable transformations.

- 2 A focus on people and rights**
In the context of technology-driven solutions and an emphasis on carbon capture as an offset strategy, we ask: who do these technologies serve? Who is being left behind? How do these technologies help achieve environmental benefits and social justice?
- 3 Localized solutions and knowledge exchange**
CIFOR-ICRAF's trademark is comparative global research, which has placed it in a leading role in evidence-based knowledge production and capacity development and outreach. In particular, we are known for fostering South-South dialogue that empowers communities, policymakers, and practitioners with sustainability knowledge and skills.

With our engagement at COP, we anticipate making a lasting and meaningful contribution to the advancement of global climate goals. This includes endorsing the sustainable management, protection, and use of terrestrial and aquatic ecosystems, as well as nurturing healthy soils and the preservation of the biodiversity and carbon within them. Further, we aim to bolster global initiatives, enhance our partners' capabilities and, in a broader sense, foster peaceful collaboration among all individuals for the betterment of the planet, humanity and the environment.



OUR EXPERTS



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Learn more at
www.cifor-icraf.org/event/cifor-icraf-at-unfccc-cop28
#TreesPeoplePlanet

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The Center for International Forestry Research and World Agroforestry (CIFOR-ICRAF) harnesses the power of trees, forests and agroforestry landscapes to address the most pressing global challenges of our time – biodiversity loss, climate change, food security, livelihoods and inequity. CIFOR and ICRAF are CGIAR Research Centers.

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