

# Food Systems, Land Use and Restoration Impact Program

## ANNUAL REPORT 2023

Cultivating a Community for  
Sustainable Landscapes

SUPPORTED BY

LED BY

IN COOPERATION WITH



## The FOLUR Impact Program consists of

The Global Platform Project, led by the World Bank with



Food and Agriculture  
Organization of the  
United Nations



The  
Food and Land Use  
Coalition



International  
Finance Corporation  
*World as a whole*  
*Creating Markets, Creating Opportunities*



Global  
Landscapes  
Forum



GOOD  
GROWTH  
PARTNERSHIP  
*Led by UNDP*

And 27 Country Projects shown on the map below, working with the following Implementing Agencies



CONSERVATION  
INTERNATIONAL



Food and Agriculture  
Organization of the  
United Nations



LIFAD  
*Investing in rural people*



UN  
DP



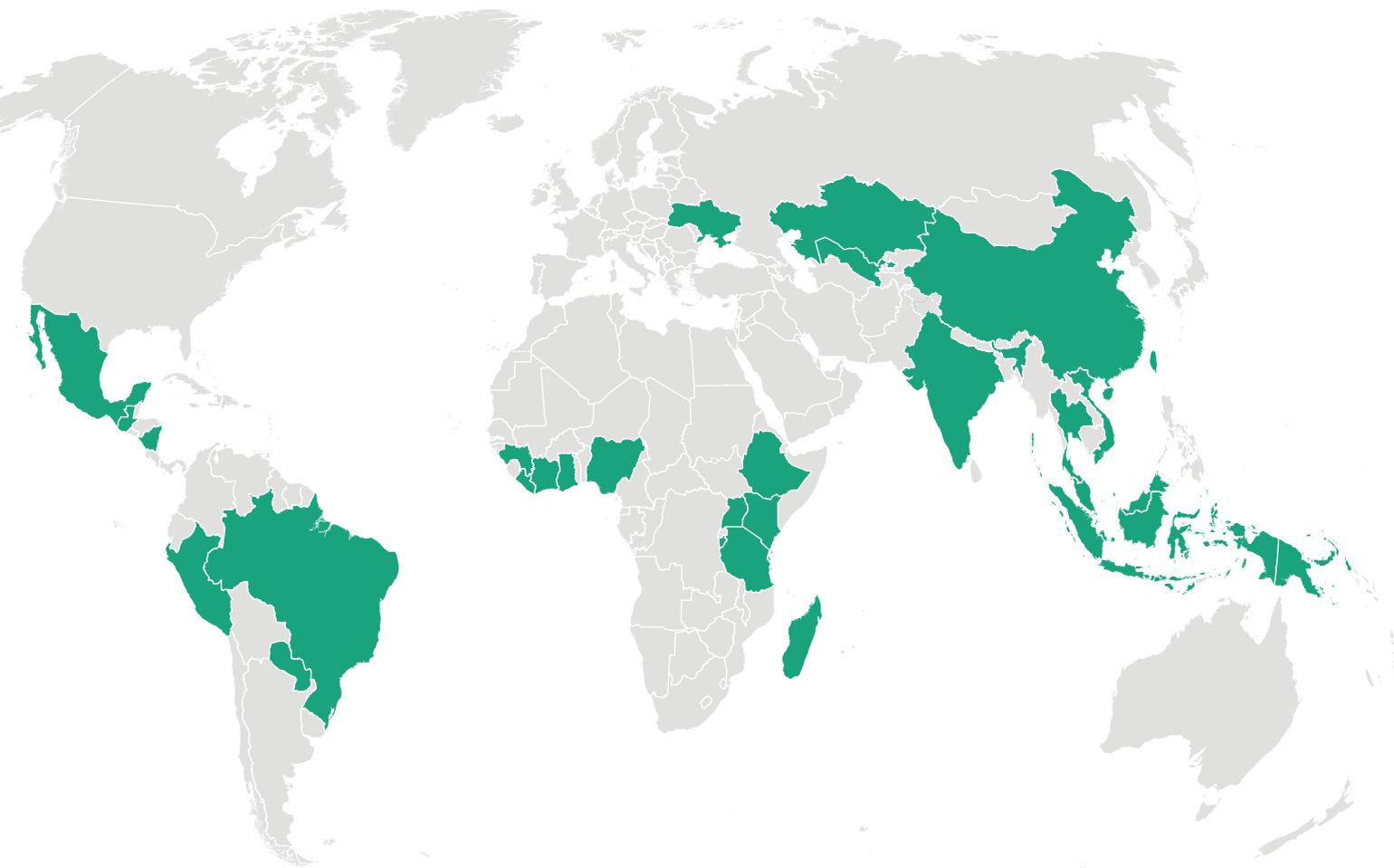
UN  
environment  
programme



THE WORLD BANK  
*IBRD - IDA*



WWF



This annual report, which covers the period from July 1, 2022 to June 30, 2023, was prepared by the Food Systems, Land Use and Restoration (FOLUR) Impact Program with contributions from the following implementing agencies: the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO), Food and Land Use Coalition (FOLU), Global Landscapes Forum (GLF), Good Growth Partnership (GGP) led by the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP), and International Finance Corporation (IFC). It includes information previously published in a requisite annual spring update. All currency references in this report are US dollars unless otherwise specified.

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## List of Abbreviations

ADB	Asian Development Bank
ALP	Agribusiness Leadership Program
CAP	Climate Advisory Partnership
CIAT	International Center for Tropical Agriculture
CIFOR	Center for International Forestry Research
CO <sub>2</sub> e	carbon dioxide equivalent
CONNECTA	Connecting Watershed Health with Sustainable Livestock and Agroforestry Production (Mexico)
COP28	28th Conference of the Parties to the U.N. Framework Convention on Climate Change
CSO	civil society organization
DLPP	Department of Lands and Physical Planning (Papua New Guinea)
EBRD	European Bank for Reconstruction and Development
ECA	effective collaborative action
ESG	environmental, social, and governance
EUDR	European Union Deforestation Regulation
FACS	Food and Agricultural Commodity Systems
FABLE	Food, Agriculture, Biodiversity, Land-Use and Energy (Consortium)
FAO	Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations
FCDO	Foreign, Commonwealth, and Development Office (UK)
FELD	Food, Energy, Land, and Development (Action Tracker)
FMO	Dutch Entrepreneurial Development Bank
FSS	farmer support systems

Above: Members of the Samburu Indigenous community attending a capacity building training session.

Photo by Cyrus Kithuva/  
Acacia EPZ Ltd

FOLU	Food and Land Use Coalition
FOLUR	Food Systems, Land Use and Restoration Impact Program
GDP	gross domestic product
GEB	global environmental benefit
GEF	Global Environment Facility
GGP	Good Growth Partnership
GLEAM-i	Global Livestock Environmental Assessment Model-interactive
GLF	Global Landscapes Forum
ICO	International Coffee Organization
IDB	Inter-American Development Bank
IFAD	International Fund for Agricultural Development
IFC	International Finance Corporation
ILM	integrated landscape management
IP	Impact Program
IPCC	Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change
MDB	multilateral development bank
PA	protected area
PILA	Participatory Informed Landscape Approach
PPP	public-private partnership
SCC	Sustainable Coffee Challenge
SCF	Soft Commodities Forum
SDSN	Sustainable Development Solutions Network
SRLI	Sustainable Rice Landscapes Initiative
UNDP	United Nations Development Programme
UNEP FI	United Nations Environment Programme Finance Initiative
UNIDO	United Nations Industrial Development Organization
VBV	value beyond value chains
WBCSD	World Business Council for Sustainable Development
WRI	World Resources Institute



## Message from the GEF

Agri-food systems are essential for the health, food security and nutrition, and economic well-being of people around the globe. Yet food systems globally and agricultural expansion are driving the loss of forests and biodiversity, land and soil degradation, and contributing to greenhouse gas emissions. The current food systems incur hidden costs of approximately \$12 trillion, that represent their impacts on social, economic, and environmental sectors.



Addressing these challenges requires a collective effort from diverse stakeholders involved in food systems. To achieve a transformative change towards sustainable and resilient food systems, we must focus on advancing systemic shifts through innovative actions and policy options. Embracing an integrated approach to systems transformation is crucial to avoid trade-offs and maximize synergies while embracing circularity. This is at the core of Global Environment Facility (GEF) approach to investing in food systems for global environmental benefits, such as reducing the conversion or degradation of natural habitats for food production, improving the management and efficiency of existing production systems, minimizing harmful chemicals and waste in the food supply chain, and enhancing overall efficiency.

Transforming food systems to mitigate environmental degradation and negative externalities requires integrated investments across entire supply chains. The Food, Land Use and Restoration (FOLUR) Impact Program embodies this integrated approach including the mobilization of diverse actors across multiple scales—from local to national, regional and global—to deliver concrete actions on both the production and demand sides of food supply

Above: Samples growing on site at Brazil's Agricultural Research Corporation (EMBRAPA)

Photo by Mauro Nery/  
FOLUR

chains. Key areas of focus include governance and policy, financial leverage, innovation, private sector engagement, and multi-stakeholder dialogue. Purposeful programmatic risk-taking is essential to achieve impactful outcomes at scale, utilizing novel approaches in policy and finance, technology and management practices, and social change.

Through the FOLUR program, the GEF is promoting multi-stakeholder engagement and communities of practice around major food crops and commodities such as rice, wheat, maize, coffee, cocoa, soy, oil palm, and livestock. As a result, the GEF will create critical mass of evidence and knowledge of actions for transforming global thinking, policy options, and actions related to food systems for the good of the global environment.

As this annual report demonstrates, it is only by working together to reduce the conversion and degradation of natural habitats for food production, improving management of existing production systems, minimizing harmful chemicals and waste in the food supply chain, and enhancing overall efficiency that we will achieve environmental equilibrium. The GEF is delighted to see the progress being made with all partners and countries and look forward to more productive outcomes in accordance with the program objectives.



**Claude Gascon**

Director of Strategy and Operations  
Global Environment Facility





## Message from the Global Director

Transformation of commodity value chains to reduce pressure on dwindling forests and other natural habitats is vital for food security and the health of the planet. Food security for all will only be possible if we radically change our food systems across the value chain now.

Recognition of the importance of the food transition—on a level with the energy transition—is now reaching a tipping point, ahead of the COP28 climate talks, where food is central. Food systems contribute to approximately one third of all emissions and are the leading source of methane and biodiversity loss, yet food systems hold enormous potential for healing the planet and sequestering carbon.

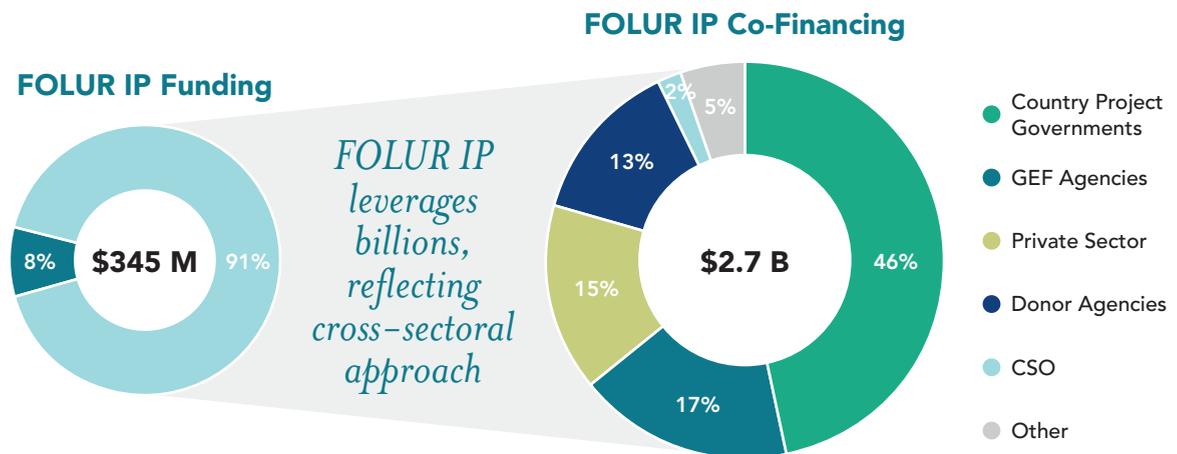
Changing how we produce and consume food is essential to meet the ambitions of the **Global Biodiversity Framework**, which encourages businesses to monitor the risks they pose to biodiversity throughout supply and value chains. The framework also urges reforms to incentives and subsidies that harm biodiversity.

These aims dovetail with those of the FOLUR Impact Program (IP), a \$345 million initiative led by the World Bank and funded by the GEF. FOLUR includes a Global Platform and projects in 27 countries, which are designed to transform the production value chains of eight commodities that significantly encroach on forests—cocoa, coffee, corn, livestock, palm oil, rice, soy, and wheat. These soft commodities are major contributors to deforestation and forest degradation, subsequently destroying biodiverse ecosystems to make way for agricultural land.



Above: Rural landscape near Padang, Sumatra, Indonesia

Photo by Flore de Preneuf/  
World Bank

**FIGURE 1 Leveraging for Impact**

Source: FOLUR Global Platform, as of June 30, 2023.

Under guidance from the World Bank, FOLUR facilitates knowledge exchange on sustainable agricultural practices, with an emphasis on decoupling deforestation from agriculture, across the public and private sectors. It is expected to leverage \$2.7 billion in investments, largely through country project governments, GEF agencies, the private sector and donor agencies.

While biodiversity is vital to maintaining environmental equilibrium, holding climate change in check and preventing land degradation, its economic role is also critical. **Half of global gross domestic product (GDP)**—\$41.7 trillion—depends on the healthy functioning of the natural world.



Photos by Mauro Nery/FOLUR



Photo by Mauro Nery/  
FOLUR

Another tipping point for food systems transformation is just around the corner. The European Union's new [Deforestation Regulation](#) (EUDR) is designed to address concerns that deforestation and forest degradation occur mainly due to the expansion of commodities, such as those in the FOLUR portfolio. It promotes the trade and use of deforestation-free products. While the new regulation poses challenges, it also offers opportunities for food systems actors, including smallholders, to rise to the unique challenge of making value chains deforestation-free.

Against the backdrop of these landmark agreements, in 2022–2023, the World Bank global knowledge platform strengthened FOLUR's global advocacy toward improving food value chains, particularly through activities at the inaugural FOLUR annual meeting in São Paulo. Discussions at the meeting revolved around the dynamics of public-private actions and their implications, underscoring the benefits of applying a range of approaches for effective implementation of project activities on the ground.

FOLUR country projects are channeling efforts toward reshaping value chains. This movement is already evident in **China**, where the area of degraded agricultural land restored across multiple FOLUR projects encompasses more than 8,000 hectares, and the area of landscapes under sustainable land management in production systems totals more than 50,000 hectares. These results were realized through strategic planning, an integrated landscape management plan, capacity building, and collaboration between decision makers, companies, technicians, and representatives from large cooperatives. In **Indonesia**, project teams completed preparatory work to identify potential target sites and beneficiaries, following a series of participatory multistakeholder integrated landscape management dialogues—both at the national and sub-national level—including consultations with potential beneficiaries. A knowledge-sharing initiative, led by International Finance Corporation (IFC); agricultural technicians; and farmers in **Côte d'Ivoire, Guinea, and Liberia**, is gaining greater knowledge on the use of agricultural lime to enhance productivity and accelerate the restoration of degraded lands with acidic soils for cocoa and oil palm landscapes.

Momentum is building to transform the value chains of major soft commodities that drive deforestation and exacerbate emissions. We are seeing promising signs of change, as deforestation rates in **Brazil** and **Indonesia** are falling. In addition, while not yet under full implementation, FOLUR Ukraine is pushing forward, putting the pieces in place to be at the ready to activate when the conflict with the Russian Federation ends.

At FOLUR, we envision a food future where smallholder farmers not only earn income from the crops they produce, but are paid for healthy soils, reforestation, and more. Farmers reap rewards from using sustainable land management strategies, which provide better stability in crop value chains over the long term. With the help of our partners and all users and protectors of global landscapes, we are coming closer to making this vision a reality.



**Martien van Nieuwkoop**

Global Director, Agriculture and Food Global Practice, World Bank





# The FOLUR Impact Program: Mission and Design

## ABOUT US

Food Systems, Land Use and Restoration (FOLUR) is a \$345 million, seven-year initiative supported by the Global Environment Facility (GEF) and led by the World Bank. The program focuses on accelerating sustainability across the value chains of eight major commodities and food staples, including cocoa, coffee, livestock, maize, palm oil, rice, soy, and wheat, seeking to transform agriculture's environmental footprint. The FOLUR Impact Program consists of landscape-level interventions in 27 country projects and a FOLUR Global Platform, which communicates lessons learned across the country projects and global value chains. From 2022 to 2023, activities advanced in many countries as projects were implemented.

## OUR VALUE ADDS: GREATER THAN THE SUM OF OUR PARTS

In addition to translating knowledge into action, the FOLUR Global Platform also uses the expertise, networks, and investments of the World Bank and five core partners: the Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO) of the United Nations, Food and Land Use Coalition (FOLU), Global Landscapes Forum (GLF), Good Growth Partnership (GGP)/United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) and International Finance Corporation (IFC). Coordinating program delivery across these organizations allows the FOLUR Global Platform to identify new opportunities for collaboration and enhance key products and services. Financing from the GEF also mobilizes significant resources from donor agencies, recipient governments, civil society organizations (CSOs), and the private sector.

Above: Detail of water droplets on leaf

Photo by Curt Carnemark/  
World Bank



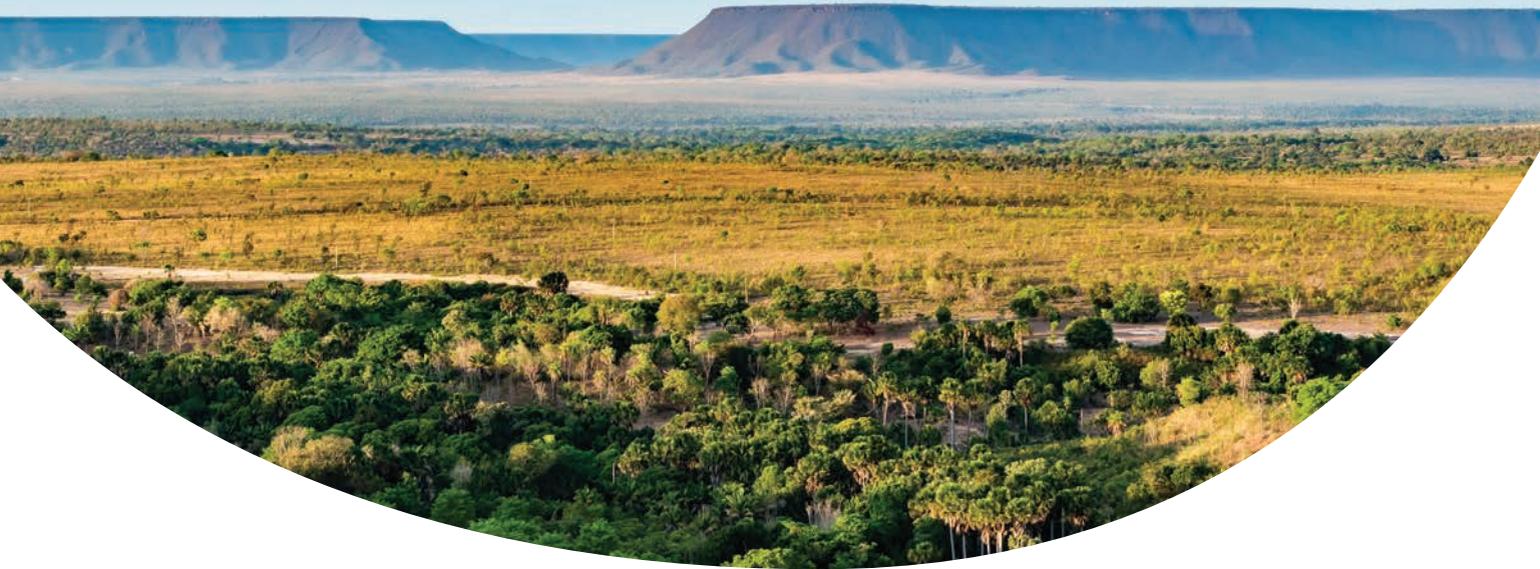
## WHERE WE WORK

The FOLUR Impact Program works across landscapes in 27 countries in Africa; North, Central, and South America; Eastern Europe; and Central, East, and Southeast Asia. The projects are distributed throughout globally important geographies for commercial agricultural commodities and food staples. Project interventions also target areas of high environmental value, where improved management and restoration could yield global environmental benefits and improve the sustainability and resilience of local communities.

### Program Design

The FOLUR Impact Program is designed to transform our food systems based on sustainable land use and productive, healthy landscapes that contribute a range of environmental benefits. To achieve this vision, the FOLUR Global Platform and country projects promote an integrated approach that emphasizes collaboration across the private sector, governments, financial institutions, land managers, research institutions, and civil society. As the lead agency, the World Bank supports and coordinates the implementing agencies, participating countries, and core partners to achieve transformational impact. The World Bank convenes the annual work planning process, facilitating collaboration on planned activities. The FOLUR Global Platform focuses on activities and services related to program and capacity strengthening, public and private sector engagement, and knowledge sharing and communications. FOLUR also promotes a consistent approach at the country level with 27 country projects emphasizing the development of integrated landscape management systems, the promotion of sustainable food production practices, responsible commodity value chains, restoration of natural habitats, collaborations, capacity building and such crosscutting themes as gender responsiveness.

This annual progress report, covering the period from July 1, 2022 to June 30, 2023, aims to update the GEF and other interested parties about the Impact Program's progress and achievements. Each section begins with a summary of achievements and then provides more detail on the partners' contributions. In future years, it will report on Global Environment Benefits achieved and broader impact. The report is produced annually and is made available to partners, countries, and interested stakeholders through the FOLUR, Global Landscapes Forum and FACS Community websites.



## Key Achievements

### ANNUAL MEETING SHAPES A LEXICON FOR LANDSCAPE RESTORATION

The World Bank coordinated the FOLUR annual meeting, co-hosted in São Paulo by the Brazilian government, on April 16–17. It was an important moment for the program, which emphasized strengthening community to accelerate fruitful knowledge exchange and disseminate insights into how best to initiate private and public sector action on value chains.

More than 100 delegates representing the World Bank, FOLUR country projects, the private sector, the GEF and the five FOLUR core partner organizations exchanged ideas on decoupling tropical deforestation from agriculture and reducing the environmental impact of agribusiness interests to stave off the climate crisis and biodiversity loss.

Tree with green leaves near a lake in Capitólio, Brazil

Photo by Rafael Dios/Unsplash



Above: National Park of Jalapão, Brazil

Photo by Charles Betito Filho/Unsplash

### Brazil — Restoring the Cerrado Savanna

In Brazil, the FOLUR Vertentes Project is exploring how to increase sustainable landscape management and restoration for beef cattle and soybean value chains in the Cerrado savanna. For more than 15 years, policies designed to conserve the Amazon have led to increasing agricultural activity in the region, putting biodiversity at risk. The government is taking the innovative step of creating a synergistic relationship between the Ministries of Agriculture and Environment to fully integrate efforts as part of a belief that greater economic growth is dependent upon a combination of low-carbon, green energy potential and natural resource wealth.

*“What we’re trying to do in the future is to reduce the environmental impact of these commodities on the climate crisis and on biodiversity loss, and even use them to drive reforestation.”*

**Chris Brett, Lead Agribusiness Specialist at the World Bank, Joint Leader of FOLUR**



Lush green valley near São Paulo, Brazil

Photo by Projeto Café Gato-Mourisco/Unsplash

Objectives included:

- Clarifying and instilling a common vision across the impact program
- Building and strengthening relationships across the impact program
- Learning more about country project goals and challenges
- Sharing how the FOLUR Global Platform and partners can accelerate country-level implementation
- Establishing a FOLUR Community of Practice that fosters South-South knowledge exchanges

Presentations were delivered with an emphasis on building bridges and trading insights between countries, deploying tools, and establishing frameworks to improve the flow of agricultural and environmental expertise.

The Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO) and the GGP worked together to advance programmatic capacity strengthening through three thematic impact sessions. The sessions featured voices from 10 FOLUR countries and were a crucial step toward raising country project awareness on global capacity enhancement and technical support for the three FOLUR programmatic components on integrated landscape management, sustainable value chains, and restoration. The FAO also contributed to a panel organized by the GEF secretariat and the World Bank on how to join up efforts between **GEF-7** funded and **GEF-8** funded Food Systems Impact Programs—including FOLUR—through substantial and operational integration to maximize deep and outscaling opportunities.



Through the FACS community, the GGP/UNDP shared information with country project delegates ahead of the event, and continued to provide space for discussion after relevant sessions on project components and cross-cutting thematic topics, which included private sector engagement, gender, communications, and knowledge management.

On the sidelines of the meeting, the Global Landscapes Forum (GLF) conducted a series of interviews requested by the World Bank, which were subsequently posted on Spotify and YouTube. In one interview, Sibelle de Andrade Silva, director of sustainable production at Brazil's Ministry of Agriculture and Livestock, discussed the need for gender policies and the importance of integrating gender equality into commodity value chains.

*“Public sector engagement will include strengthening the legal protection of natural ecosystems on private lands, and the alignment of existing policies and incentives to promote sustainability in agriculture value chains and forest protection.”*

*Sibelle Silva, Director of Sustainable Production, Ministry of Agriculture and Livestock, Brazil*

## PROGRAM AND CAPACITY STRENGTHENING

As the lead agency of the Impact Program, the World Bank has established opportunities to deepen connections between the FOLUR Global Platform and the country projects, particularly through the annual meeting. The World Bank has developed materials and worked with implementing agencies to participate in the inception meetings and workshops that kick-off the country project implementation, showcasing how the FOLUR Global Platform can help with implementation and demonstrate the added value, opportunities, and knowledge resources that FOLUR Global Platform partners can offer in the country context. To shore up the ongoing capacity-strengthening process, the FAO began a rollout of the Participatory Informed Landscape Approach (PILA), which empowers stakeholders to make evidenced-based decisions about the future of their landscapes. The GGP

also expanded the membership of the FACS Community, the **Impact Program's** digital space for FOLUR country projects, Global Platform partners, and stakeholders worldwide to share information and knowledge.

*“Supportive government policies are instrumental for stimulating investment. When governments see the benefits of integrated landscape management and create policies to adopt agroforestry systems, both the natural environment and the investment environment benefit.”*

**Chris Brett, Lead Agribusiness Specialist at the World Bank, Joint Leader of FOLUR**

**Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations:** The initial PILA country-level rollout for case study development is planned for India, Kenya, Nigeria, and Viet Nam. To strengthen sustainable value-chains across FOLUR

## All About PILA

The **Participatory Informed Landscape Approach (PILA)** is designed to bring integrated landscape management plans to fruition and implement transformative landscape governance. It consists of a modular, country-specific, and cross-sectoral approach that incorporates facilitating the multidisciplinary technical expertise, tools, and methods of the Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO) across agroecology, incentives and investments, ecosystem restoration, tenure rights, transformative governance, open geospatial data, and multistakeholder dialogue.

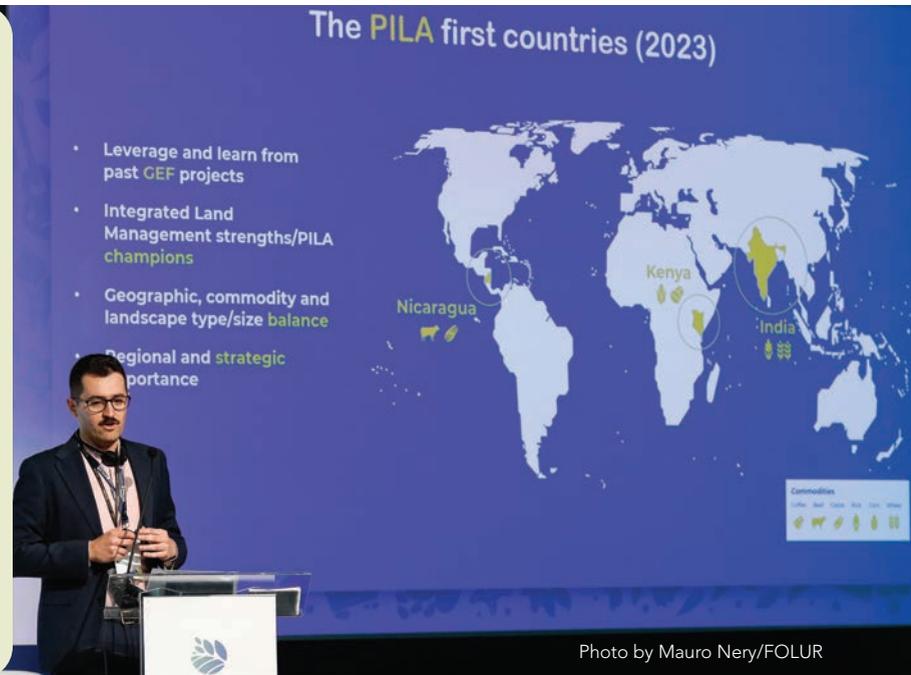


Photo by Mauro Nery/FOLUR

countries, the FAO advanced the deepening of the Participatory Informed Landscape Approach (PILA) through integrating the horizontal (landscape) with vertical (value-chains) levels through linkages to normative work on traceability and assurance systems for market compliance, codes of conduct for sustainable use of fertilizer and pesticides, soil and livestock management, and sustainability standards (private sector) for deforestation-free commodities. The enriched and expanded PILA is directly relevant to emerging trends and country needs such as the European Union Deforestation-Free Regulation (EUDR) to advance deforestation-free commodity value chains with a particular focus on supporting small-scale producers.

**Good Growth Partnership:** The FACS Community has a custom-built **FOLUR Country Project group**. This group provides a tailored digital collaborative space for FOLUR core partners and country projects to interact, exchange knowledge, collaborate across geographies and time zones, and develop capacities from activities offered by the FOLUR Global Platform.

The FACS Community, uniting a total of 512 members to date and expanding, now includes 116 representatives from FOLUR.

Since July 2022, the FACS Community has organized numerous FOLUR-relevant learning events, including the following:

- An EUDR learning series where practitioners learned from and discussed approaches to complying with this new regulation, with a focus on traceability systems in the beef, cocoa, and coffee sectors in Latin America and Africa.

- Webinars on innovative financial mechanisms, building on discussions of Brazilian soy and livestock production, managing deforestation risks in bank portfolios, and on living income approaches.
- Discovery sessions on GGP's Value Beyond Value Chains (VBV) guidance focused on how collaboration between the private sector and governments can enhance sustainable commodity production leading to ad hoc training for FOLUR country project teams and private sector stakeholders. GGP/UNDP also presented the results of a jurisdictional dialogue series held in Indonesia and Colombia and how this can be replicated under FOLUR.
- Virtual workshops on UNDP farmer support systems (FSS) guidance and one problem-solving workshop addressed challenges affecting extension services in FOLUR country projects, allowing FOLUR teams to gain insights on how to strengthen producers' extension systems.
- The first module of the FOLUR Gender Learning Program (Intake 1) was held in late 2023 building on substantive content and case studies included in the UNDP-GGP led FOLUR Resource Guide on Gender Equality published for the FOLUR annual meeting in São Paulo.

Under UNDP leadership, the GGP is providing learning events on its **Effective Collaborative Action** (ECA) methodology, promoting meaningful collaboration. Since July 2022, the GGP team delivered 11 capacity-building events on ECA areas of intervention, targeting FOLUR practitioners. Once fully implemented, country project teams and stakeholders will be equipped to better facilitate and participate in multistakeholder platforms and dialogues. Under FOLUR, these multistakeholder processes—essential to drive inclusive commitments and legal changes towards more sustainable commodity sectors—will include protection, restoration, and green production practices for high conservation value areas.

In addition, GGP has delivered training sessions on UNDP **FSS guidance** and a problem-solving workshop addressing challenges affecting extension services in FOLUR countries. The sessions allow FOLUR teams to first familiarize themselves with, and then receive capacity building on a toolkit that takes a systemic approach to strengthening extension systems. By replicating the problem-solving workshop methodology in their countries, FOLUR teams could facilitate local processes to strengthen farmer support, nudging farmers to adopt more sustainable production practices, contributing to **global environmental benefits (GEBs)**.

Farm in Belo Horizonte,  
Brazil

Photo by Helena Lopes/  
Unsplash



## POLICY AND VALUE CHAIN ENGAGEMENT

In fiscal 2023, the FOLUR Impact Program continued to advance an integrated approach to policy and private sector engagement. Partnerships across public and private sectors helped to identify practical and strategic opportunities to add value to policy dialogue, standards development, investments, and dissemination of knowledge products.

### Policy Engagement

**Food and Land Use Coalition:** The World Resources Institute (WRI) began the roll-out of its **Restoration Policy Accelerator** with research on policy bottlenecks in Mexican and Guatemalan states where FOLUR Projects have been implemented in 2023, aiming to accelerate landscape restoration implementation by strengthening incentive policies.

*Policy accelerators convene policy innovators, identifying factors that help and hinder the effectiveness of the incentives policies in their respective countries and developing roadmaps to strategically shift policies as needed.*

The FOLUR Policy Accelerator will maximize the exchange of knowledge and experiences around the development and implementation of FOLUR countries' public incentives for production. The 2023 cohort will focus primarily on sub-national policy makers, targeting states within Mexico, such as Veracruz and Chiapas; and Guatemala's Valle del Motagua, where the FOLUR projects are being implemented, though there will also be national-level representation to ensure alignment and potentially mobilize resources at a larger scale.



Yellow and black bird on green fruit near São Paulo, Brazil

Photo by Cassio Nunes/Unsplash

In addition to convening key policymakers in Mexico and Guatemala, Ethiopia, Kenya, and Ghana will share practices and design incentives that encourage landowners and farmers to restore land and improve management for conservation, with a particular focus on deforestation-free coffee and cocoa production. These policy shifts will support each country in achieving its goal for restoring degraded land, culminating in a combined target of 31.8 million hectares by 2030.

## Value Chain Engagement

The World Bank has advanced a model for aligning public and private financing in landscapes through work with the Soft Commodities Forum (SCF), a commodity roundtable, and the FOLUR Brazil country project. In 2023, the SCF launched the Farmer First Clusters Initiative to address soy-driven deforestation and conversion in four key Cerrado landscapes. Through this endeavor, SCF member companies are collectively investing \$7.2 million to establish a financial model that provides soy producers with adequate incentives to halt deforestation and conversion in municipalities where the risk of conversion is high.

The FOLUR Global Platform identified geographic overlap between this private sector-led initiative and the FOLUR Brazil country project. The SCF and World Bank will continue mapping to determine overlap in actual beneficiaries and subsequently look for opportunities to strategically sequence their respective financing to support farmers transitioning to more sustainable practices.

With approval of the EUDR, the World Bank and its partners recognized the potential impact on FOLUR countries, as well as the opportunity for FOLUR projects to demonstrate how governments and the private sector can quickly rise to the challenge of sustainable sourcing. Working with the WRI, the World Bank developed a set of foundational materials with an overview of the regulations and case studies by commodity. In 2024, the FOLUR Global Platform will continue to support the country projects with tailored knowledge packages organized by commodity.

The World Bank also coordinated a comprehensive package of activities to support value chain engagement at the country, regional, and global level. For instance, Conservation International is exploring the convergence of the taskforce's landscape work with the efforts of the [Sustainable Coffee Challenge \(SCC\)](#), which is also experiencing a large private sector following. The goal is to foster public-private-partnerships (PPPs) that enhance the resilience of coffee communities and promote a sustainable sector transformation. Best practices promoted through this work—as described in the [SCC 2022 Commitments Hub Report](#)—not only benefit coffee-focused FOLUR countries, but others, as well.

Piracanjuba River,  
Cerrado region, Brazil

Photo by Wagner/  
AdobeStock



**Food and Land Use Coalition:** The [World Business Council for Sustainable Development](#) (WBCSD) continues its work to promote sustainability in rice and soy production landscapes as part of its role in the FOLUR Global Platform. The team finalized a baseline analysis report for its Asia Rice Nature-Based Solutions Accelerator, a program within the Sustainable Rice Landscapes Initiative (SLRI). The report, along with a mission paper, encourages companies and countries to join the accelerator. In addition, WBCSD has engaged closely with the World Bank FOLUR team on its Soft Commodities Forum (SCF), focusing on deforestation and conversion-free soy production in Brazil. The team is working on a joint analysis to identify common objectives and geographic overlaps between the FOLUR project and the SCF priority areas.

**Good Growth Partnership:** [Conservation International](#), a member of the GGP, promotes sustainable coffee supply chains and landscapes through the [International Coffee Organization](#) (ICO) and its leadership of a technical workstream under the ICO Coffee Public-Private Task Force. The momentum around the task force has continued to grow over the past year, and it has proven to be an effective mechanism to connect dialogue around landscape approaches with critical sustainability issues facing the industry, such as deforestation and living income.

**International Finance Corporation:** Since the launch of IFC's Practices for Sustainable Investment in Livestock Operations at the Global Agenda for Sustainable Livestock's annual meeting in November 2022, IFC has presented the practices at 10 international events and organized two technical sessions for eight leading European Union development finance institutions.

IFC is supporting an update to the Global Livestock Environmental Assessment Model-interactive (GLEAM-i) tool in collaboration with FAO. This update supports IFC's goal to reduce emissions from the livestock sector. GLEAM-i is the first open, user-friendly, and livestock-specific tool designed to support governments, project planners, producers, industry organizations, and CSOs to calculate greenhouse gas emissions using Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) Tier 2 methods. Immediate priority countries for the update include FOLUR country projects in China and Kenya.

*More than 1,390 participants attended external events on IFC's Practices for Sustainable Investment in Livestock Operations. IFC's practice webpage received 1,326 views and 378 downloads. IFC conducted two technical sessions for multilateral development banks (MDBs), five of which—the Inter-American Development Bank (IDB) Invest, the European Bank for Reconstruction and Development (EBRD), the Asian Development Bank (ADB), the Dutch Entrepreneurial Development Bank (FMO), and British International Investment—with the largest animal protein portfolios have endorsed IFC's practices.*

Coffee capsule maker Nestlé Nespresso is working with IFC in Uganda on a project to revive the high-quality, natural Arabica (Druga) coffee traditionally grown on the slopes of the Rwenzori Mountain range by smallholder farmers. The project is working to improve productivity and build the resilience of roughly 2,000 smallholder farmers to the adverse impacts of climate change through good agronomic practices, enriched knowledge of agri-farm inputs and tools, enhanced nutrition through purposeful intercropping, and a tailored approach that aims at increasing the participation of women in the value chain. IFC expects that over 700 hectares of land of the farmers that participate in the program will show improved agricultural practices by December 2025.

IFC is also providing technical assistance to scale up and replicate climate-smart sustainable wheat farming practices through a partnership with agri-food giant Olam in India, focusing on water and overall resource efficiency—and as a result, reducing greenhouse gas emissions. This has a large, cascading impact in the sector and in the geography by prompting behavioral change among roughly 10,000 smallholder farmers with respect to adoption of sustainable, climate-smart wheat cultivation practices and contributing to yield and income enhancements. IFC expects that 2,000 hectares of land related to the participating smallholder farmers will be under improved practices by December 2025.

**Sustainable Development Solutions Network (SDSN)** continues its work under two strategic initiatives: the Food, Agriculture, Biodiversity, Land-Use, and Energy (FABLE) Consortium, and the Food, Environment, Land, and Development (FELD) Action Tracker, aimed at supporting transitions toward sustainable food systems. In 2023, the team has developed an overview note on policy instruments available to government officials to align public finance for sustainable food systems, including examples from FOLUR countries. The team has also developed interactive dashboards to track the environmental footprint of food and fiber consumption for select FOLUR countries, providing visualizations of indicators related to food consumption, emissions, biodiversity, and water. One dashboard has focused on comparing mitigation options to reduce methane emissions in China, particularly from beef and rice production. Lastly, the SDSN team is modeling restoration scenarios based on various objectives for restoration areas and is currently compiling a database of maps related to restoration potential at the global level and for select FOLUR countries.

**United Nations Environment Programme Finance Initiative:** Another GGP member, United Nations Environment Programme Finance Initiative (UNEP FI), is building the capacity of financial institutions and regulators in making environmental, social, and governance (ESG) risk-informed investment and/or lending decisions. Since July 2022, UNEP has developed and delivered training to financial actors in Brazil and Paraguay, and at the regional level in Asia. To date, around 150 financial institutions were trained on issues relating to sustainable land use finance, including investing in nature-based solutions.

## Leverage Highlight

**Financing facilitated:** FOLUR support to Nestle Nespresso enabled a \$4.5 million loan from inception to June 30, 2023 (FY23).

**Co-Financing:** FOLUR support leveraged an additional \$3.1 million through IFC engagements

**TABLE 1** Leveraging IFC Projects Through Co-Financing

IFC Project	Co-Financing Contributions	Comments
Nestle Nespresso, Uganda	\$300,000	The Nestle Nespresso Uganda coffee project supported by FOLUR leveraged additional funds from the Climate Advisory Partnership (CAP) with Foreign, Commonwealth, and Development Office (UK).  Contributions are inception to June 30, 2023 (FY23).
Olam, India	\$1,300,000	The Olam India wheat project supported by FOLUR leveraged additional funds from Japan and other donors.  Contributions are inception to June 30, 2023 (FY23).
Sustainable Crop Production Platform	\$637,863	Supports the development and design of agronomy training, including the guidelines on <b>use of agricultural lime</b> , and good agricultural practices training for farmers in the <b>Uganda coffee project and Olam India project</b> .  Actual expenses for July 1st, 2022 through June 30, 2023 (FY23).
Sustainable Protein Platform	\$530,376	Supports development and design of livestock sector programs, including <b>sustainable investments in livestock practices</b> .  Actual expenses for July 1st, 2022 through June 30, 2023 (FY23).
Supply Chain Platform	\$395,971	Develop Agribusiness Leadership Program (ALP) training curriculum for producer organizations and smallholder farmers, which is being used in the <b>Uganda coffee project and India wheat project</b> .  Actual expenses for July 1st, 2022 through June 30, 2023 (FY23).
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$3,164,2210</b>	

Source: IFC, 2023.

## STRATEGIC KNOWLEDGE MANAGEMENT AND COMMUNICATIONS

In 2023, the World Bank, with the support of core partners, focused on communicating narratives that highlighted the key theme of the year of community building across countries, themes, and sectors. FOLUR participated in events, hosted communications working group meetings, and continued to guide our communications partner, the GLF, while producing stories on *FOLUR for the Record* and supporting the production of stories on *Landscape News*. FOLUR has also actively engaged on podcasts and social media, as well as global forums relevant to sustainable landscapes, including from the sidelines at the COP27 climate talks in Sharm El-Sheik in a session on Scope 3 emissions, the COP15 biodiversity talks in Montreal, and at GLF Value Chains Week.

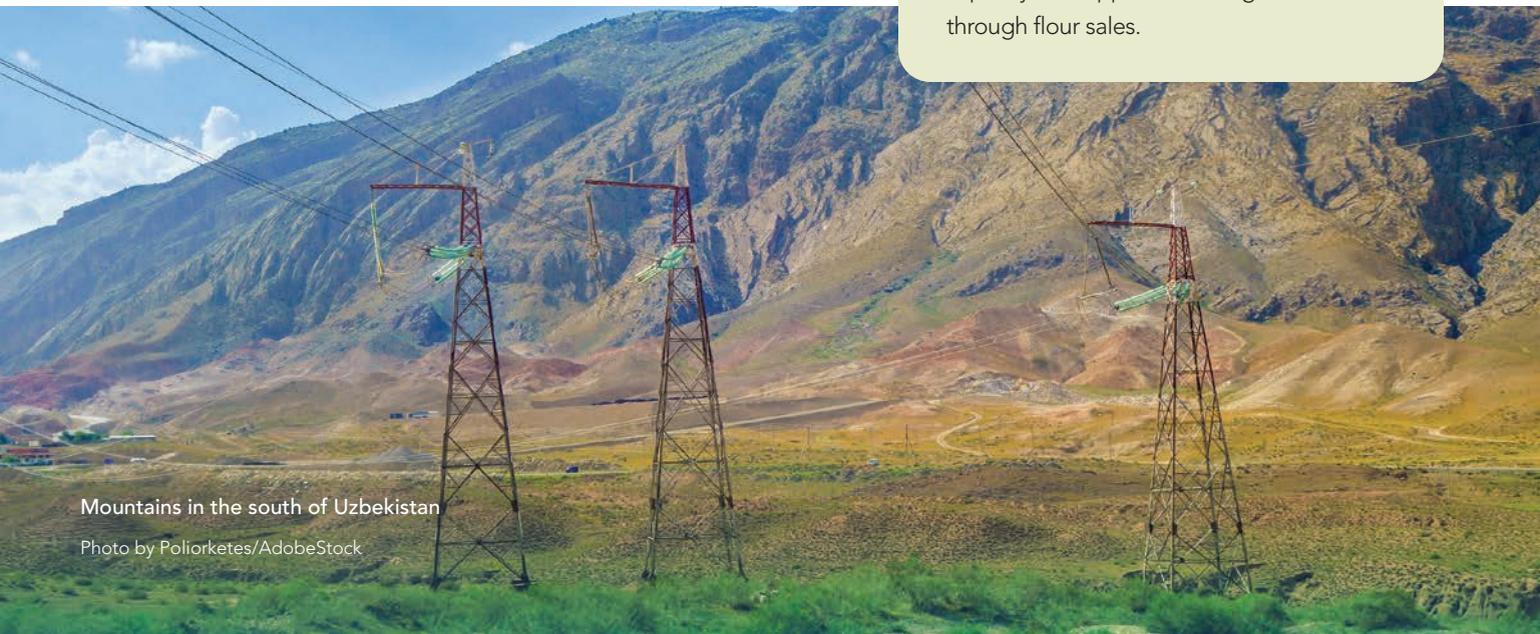
At the Sixth GLF Investment Case Symposium, a FOLUR session brought together representatives from national banks, global development institutions, and international investment banks to share thoughts and discuss challenges. FOLUR's core narrative and messaging, "Building Sustainable Landscapes for People and the Planet," was shared across communications channels and relevant global engagements and dialogues. In partnership with the GLF, the communications function of the FOLUR Global Platform drove increased visibility for the FOLUR Impact Program and increasingly associated the program with key words on social media: sustainable, food systems, and value chains. A new FOLUR web presence on the GLF website and FOLUR channels on the GLF YouTube and Flickr accounts were added, broadening opportunities for followers to remain up to date.

### Uzbekistan — Driving Change with Renewable Energy

FOLUR projects dovetail with Uzbekistan's 2020–2030 Agriculture Development Strategy to modernize, developing a more sustainable agri-food sector while boosting nutritional self-sufficiency. Support for 5,000 wheat farmers, cultivating an average land area of half a hectare or less, in the autonomous Republic of Karakalpakstan and the province of Khorazm in the northwest of the country, will help address soil salinity and biodiversity in protected areas. In Qashqadaryo, in the rainfed and irrigated areas of the southeast, the focus is on drought and biodiversity. Smallholder farmers will accelerate production of landraces and wild species. In some remote areas, there is a lack of electricity to drive the mills, hence the project involves improving milling capacity by providing renewable energy using wind, water, and solar. The stones that grind the grain are driven by water, which freezes in winter; solar energy will therefore help to offset the frigid temperatures. Without electricity, farmers must also journey from the mountains, which are sometimes impassable for months in winter, to take their grain to the mill. Increased grinding capacity will support income generation through flour sales.

Mountains in the south of Uzbekistan

Photo by Poliorketes/AdobeStock



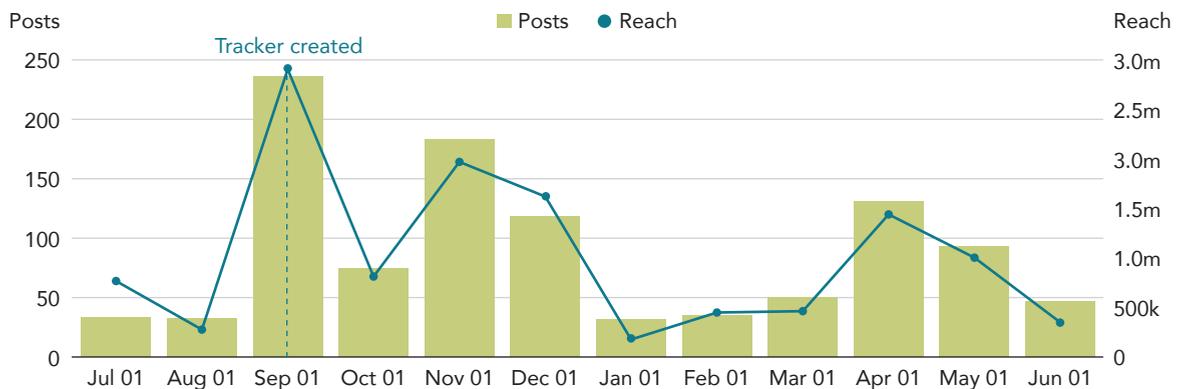
**Global Landscapes Forum:** Through global events with FOLUR specific sessions and innovative communications products, during the reporting period of July 2022 to June 2023, the #FOLURImpact and #ThinkLandscape hashtags gained global traction, generating over 105,000 engagements on social media. Video interviews, with 8,500 views, included coverage of the W+ Standard, which certifies projects that create increased social and economic benefits for women participating in environment, agriculture and economic development projects. Interviews also covered how financial disclosures support sustainable business, restoration, and value chains in Africa.

GLF activities communicated ideas relevant to all aspects of FOLUR, focusing on inclusivity by ensuring that the voices of small-scale farmers, women, youth, Indigenous Peoples and local communities, those without Internet access, and those across the Global South are heard.

At the GLF's Sixth Investment Case conference in Luxembourg, conversations centered around the role of financial institutions in sustainability and value creation. A **FOLUR session on addressing commodity-driven deforestation in investment portfolios** provided insights into how financial institutions can proactively respond to newly proposed regulations and accounting standards to drive change in landscapes and across value chains.

After the GLF–Luxembourg Finance for Nature 2023: What comes next? symposium, GLF reported that the event united 4,500 in-person and online participants from 162 countries around how finance can solve—rather than exacerbate—the climate and biodiversity crises.

**FIGURE 2 #FOLURImpact Hashtag Use on X and Instagram, July 2022–June 2023**





## Progress on Fiscal Year 2023 Themes

### GENDER

#### Supporting Inclusivity across FOLUR Project Activities

Diverse voices and viewpoints are emerging and crystallizing into new ways of addressing challenges faced by many of the 27 country projects that make up the FOLUR Impact Program. Inclusive approaches to reshaping the dynamics in rural landscapes reflect creative approaches to communication, engagement, capacity strengthening, supporting women and men, and measurement of gender outcomes. Training that is designed to raise awareness and prevent gendered oppression, including gender-based violence, is also critical and is a vital component of many FOLUR projects.

- **Burundi** (coffee): Building on previous World Bank-supported projects that have led to over 130,000 land certificates, 70 percent of which include women. At least 30 percent of leadership roles in decision-making bodies are held by women, and at least 50 percent of direct benefits of project actions—such as receiving tree seedlings, seeds, and other productive inputs—go to women.
- **Ethiopia** (coffee, wheat): to build on past joint land certification efforts in work on improved landscape management practices.
- **Ghana** (cocoa): The project team is strengthening local community groups to enhance productivity and increase equitable benefits from improved agronomic practices.
- **Indonesia** (cocoa, coffee, oil palm): Multistakeholder consultations were critical to identify targeted gender-responsive activities.

Above: Village in  
West Java, Indonesia

Photo by Aulia Erlangga/  
CIFOR

- **Liberia** (cocoa, oil palm): The steering committee must nominate a woman alternate for each male member. The project also established rotational rules, which ensure that women are given key leadership roles, 30 percent of which are held by women at project sites.
- **Mexico** (livestock): Childcare support will lead to more equal participation of women and men in technical trainings.
- **Papua New Guinea** (cocoa, coffee, oil palm): A participatory workshop identified specific gender-responsive activities with gender action plans targeted at the diverse needs of project participants.
- **Tanzania** (rice): Inclusive training that will consider the needs and schedules of participants via farmer field schools and ensure that women, men and youth are participating equally. A “training of trainers” approach will similarly ensure greater diversity among rural service providers that have traditionally been exclusively men.

These initiatives demonstrate how project activities that expose and remove structural barriers lead to enhanced outcomes for all.

### Mexico — Making Gender a Priority

The Connecting Watershed Health with Sustainable Livestock and Agroforestry Production (CONNECTA) project in Mexico embedded gender equality from the very beginning, conducting a gender action plan and gender analysis at the start of the project, and undertaking gender diagnostics of executing units and producer organizations. The gender analysis was included as part of an environmental and social analysis undertaken in the targeted states and watersheds. This analysis looked at the participation of women in livestock value chains and identified business opportunities with extensive participation of women.

Source: FOLUR Mexico Country Project, 2023.



## Country Projects

As the lead agency of the impact program, the World Bank initiates the process of establishing and deepening connections with all 27 country projects, beginning with inception workshops. More and more countries are becoming active; currently, 16 country projects are under implementation. Others, like Ukraine, are pushing forward despite obstacles.

Select Food Systems, Land Use and Restoration (FOLUR) Country Projects are highlighted here.

### CHINA



#### **FOCUS:** Rice, wheat, and livestock landscapes

Innovative transformation of China's food production systems and agroecological landscapes is underway, with more than 8,414 hectares restored and 50,449 hectares under improved practices in FOLUR project areas across Guizhou, Heilongjiang, Jiangsu, Jiangxi, and Shandong provinces.

In 2022, COVID-19 pandemic prevention and control policies in various regions delayed overall implementation; however, as of 2023, the safety measures have been removed. The project management team coordinated with provincial and county project management office service providers to accelerate implementation.

**Above: Sacks of rice during harvest**

Photo by Thor Jorgen Udvang/Adobe Stock

After measured were lifted a framework for national and provincial cooperation across departments was established to develop an integrated landscape management system in agricultural landscapes. Field demonstrations and educational sessions were held on carbon sequestration and methods to reduce greenhouse gases in farmland, the development and maintenance of monitoring applications, and biodiversity conservation. An integrated landscape management plan, including technical demonstrations and training in project areas, is under development. Decision makers, technicians, companies, and representatives of large cooperatives participated in sessions promoting sustainable food production practices and responsible agri-food value chains.

Co-financing enabled local authorities to carry out more sustainable land management, ecological ditch construction, and precision agriculture techniques as well as pesticide reduction and optimisation technology demonstrations and applications on more than 60,000 hectares. More than 6,145 individuals, including farmers, large cooperatives, and technicians, were trained in these practices.

**Terraced rice paddies near a Red Zao village; outside of Sapa, Lao Cai province, northern Vietnam.**

Photo by Tran Thi Hoa/  
World Bank

The FOLUR China team sees an opportunity to exchange and share knowledge about rice with the FOLUR India and Viet Nam teams.



## INDONESIA



**FOCUS:** Palm oil, coffee, cocoa, and rice

FOLUR Indonesia completed its first year of implementation after the official launch of the project in August 2022. The project has taken critical early steps to establish the integrated landscape management (ILM) approach. A baseline will be determined three years after ILM plans are endorsed. In the interim, through an inclusive and participatory multistakeholder dialogue process, the project has made an initial assessment of the potential areas of intervention at the district level. This will inform a more comprehensive baseline assessment of areas for land restoration towards the end of 2023.

Preparatory work to identify potential targeted sites and beneficiaries in five project districts has been initiated and it is well progressed. This included a series of more than 15 participatory multistakeholder ILM dialogues both at the national and sub-national level, including consultations with 3,634 potential beneficiaries, 1,571 of which were women. As a result, a clearer indication of initial beneficiaries was obtained in Sorong, Central Aceh, Mandailing Natal, Sanggau, and Luwu and is estimated at 52,838 overall beneficiaries, of which 22,644 are women.

The project is identifying potential areas for restoration in each of its five districts. In total, 58,894 hectares have been identified: 5,380 hectares in Central Aceh; 3,651 in Mandailing Natal; 5,222 in Sanggau; 34,172 in Sorong; and 10,469 hectares in Luwu, including 37,910 hectares of forest land. The project is on track to define more specific estimates by the third year.

The initial estimate of land for interventions was completed and determined to be 74,113 hectares across the five project districts. Defining the baseline for greenhouse gas emissions is linked with a baseline assessment to be determined next year. National, provincial, and district level data were collected to extrapolate an initial assessment of 41,495,405 carbon dioxide equivalent (CO<sub>2</sub>e) potential greenhouse gas emissions to be avoided in each district. This number will be more accurately defined next year.

In the first year of implementation, the project has carried out key initial activities and nurtured multilevel and multisectoral coordination for ILM. While challenges remain in integrating different sectors to effectively realize integrated landscape management, the project team is confident that FOLUR Indonesia is on the right track to achieve its targets and contribute to global environmental benefits.

Cocoa & coffee

Photo by Adam Cohn/Flickr



## PAPUA NEW GUINEA



### FOCUS: Oil palm, cocoa, and coffee

FOLUR Papua New Guinea is based on New Britain Island, which is under threat from expanding oil palm and cocoa production. The island ranges from dense lowland plains to a central mountainous spine with peaks of over 2,000 meters. With heavy forest cover, the island represents an area of high-value biodiversity, but is also under threat of rapid forest loss due to agricultural conversion, particularly with oil palm and cocoa production, with over 450,000 hectares under permits for forest clearance. The pressure for agricultural conversion is driven by a desire for economic development and income, rapid population growth, and the importance of agriculture in the economy. The agricultural sector faces multiple barriers, including knowledge gaps in understanding sustainable production, the prevalence of unsustainable practices, unresponsive supply chains, and limited access to finance. By addressing these barriers, the project will help to deliver: 50,000 hectares of restored land, 2.7 million hectares of landscapes under improved practices (excluding protected areas), 32.3 million metric tons of CO<sub>2</sub>e of direct post-project. The project will also deliver direct economic and/or non-economic benefits to 66,647 individuals, comprising 28,838 women and 37,809 men.

Project efforts are coordinated with the Department of Lands and Physical Planning (DLPP) to prepare activities to reach the objective to improve agricultural practices on 2,712,364 hectares of landscapes. Terms of Reference were developed to contract a multiyear service provider for the development of integrated landscape management systems and achieve the following outputs:

- National sustainable land-use planning policy guidance and regulations endorsed, implemented, and sustainably financed
- Sustainable land use planning information and coordination systems and tools established at the national level and within target provinces
- Provincial-level sustainable landscape management plans developed, consulted upon, and integrated into development planning across two provinces, three districts, and four local-level governments across New Britain

### Coffee cherries, Burundi

Photo by Timothy Bryan Hill



Currently, the selection process is underway for service providers, who are expected to begin activities before the end of 2023.

The project is focused on establishing activities to develop integrated landscape management systems and the promotion of sustainable food production practices and responsible value chains, to reduce land stress and avert degradation and deforestation.

The project is developing an impact evaluation framework to monitor and evaluate causal impacts and systemic change, such as greenhouse gas emissions. Once this framework is completed and project activities are fully under implementation, the project will be able to estimate the amount of greenhouse gases mitigated.

## UKRAINE



### FOCUS: Livestock

The project, Promoting Sustainable Livestock Management and Ecosystem Conservation in Northern Ukraine, faces delays in implementation due to full-scale war in the country since February 2022. Three of the project's seven target regions were affected by military action. Despite this, after the territories were de-occupied, the project team managed to initiate the creation of a steering committee, and the inception workshop was held in June 2023 in a hybrid format for safety reasons.

Because of these circumstances, the project team cannot yet report exact measurable progress concerning landscapes under improved practices, but can report significant steps toward this indicator:

- Four missions to seven oblasts, or primary administrative regions, to assess existing land use and land planning practices were completed. During these missions, the project met with 83 stakeholders. Active discussions covered the current situation in the communities, agriculture facilities, impacts of the war, and willingness to cooperate with the project. Most participants showed interest in the project's implementation, for a total of 11 communities.
- The project initiated a study on the current state of agriculture. This will allow for a more comprehensive picture of current land use practices in northern Ukraine.
- As a basis for a future open-source land use database, the project produced a draft map with specific layers concerning peatlands, the Nature Reserve Fund, Ramsar sites, and Emerald Network locations.

### Beef cattle farm in Brazil

Photo by AlfRibeiro/  
AdobeStock



- Vacancies were opened for four regional coordinators and a land use planning expert. The recruitment processes are being finalized.
- Finally, project team members and representatives of the Ministry of Agrarian Policy and Food and the Ministry of Environmental Protection and Natural Resources of Ukraine participated in the FOLUR annual meeting in Sao Paolo, exchanging experiences with colleagues regarding sustainable and advanced practices in agriculture.

After consultations were held during the field visits, the project team updated the indicator concerning land restoration. Terms of Reference were prepared for the reassessment of 10 project sites.

To ensure improved management for conservation of terrestrial protected areas, the project team established relationships with nine protected areas (PAs) and discussed areas for improvement in management through online and offline meetings. In return, the PAs provided feedback and proposed adjustments to some project activities. Currently, the project is conducting a needs assessment in collaboration with the Ministry of Environment and will procure the equipment needed to improve PA management. In addition, best practice training courses for PA personnel will be held with project support.

In relation to greenhouse gas emissions mitigation:

- The project consulted and contributed to development of a model for calculating emissions reduction from a manure management system. This initiative was undertaken in partnership with the UNDP-supported Green Recovery in Ukraine project, as well as [Astarta](#), a large agricultural holding company.
- The project team gained knowledge on paludiculture—wet agriculture and forestry on peatlands—as an approach to mitigating greenhouse gas emissions from peatlands, and joined a related conference that focused on peatland restoration and carbon dioxide emissions reduction. Terms of Reference were drafted to develop an assessment of paludiculture perspectives in Ukraine and a compendium summary containing the main findings of that assessment.



## Vision for 2023–2024 and Beyond

As the Food Systems, Land Use and Restoration (FOLUR) Impact Program grows, the emphasis is on creating a virtuous cycle, in which global knowledge spurs change in commodities, while country project learnings influence and impact global understanding of how to make commodity production more sustainable for the future.

As more countries move forward with implementation, early movers can help to inform the development of other country projects, while commodity dialogues will build learning on multiple levels, such as at the country, regional, commodity, and cross-commodity levels. FOLUR Global Platform partners will continue to support country projects through knowledge exchange, training, and technical assistance.

### ROLL OUT TOOLS TO SPUR CHANGE

Core partners will increasingly roll out key tools that are proven to work on the ground, such as the PILA and policy accelerators, across FOLUR countries.

A focus for the policy accelerators will be subnational policy markers in the Veracruz and Chiapas states of Mexico and Valle del Motagua in Guatemala. The team will convene a one-week, in-person workshop in November 2023 at the International Center for Tropical Agriculture (CIAT) in Colombia. This workshop will host 15 policy-makers from the Ministry of Agriculture, as well as the Ministry of Environment, from Mexico and Guatemala, and 10 mentors from various institutions. In 2024, the program will be replicated in Ethiopia, Ghana, and Kenya, working closely with the FOLUR projects in those countries.

Above: Rack with wheat and cereals in Zinacantán, México

Photo by Alan de la Cruz/Unsplash

Meanwhile, Kenya, Nigeria, and Nicaragua will be among the first countries for the PILA roll-out, creating case studies for future learning. These case studies will feed into a compendium, which considers the actual cost of commodity production, licensing, and traceability systems for market compliance and more.

## **INFLUENCE GLOBAL ENGAGEMENT AND CONVERSATION**

FOLUR and its partners will continue preparing to participate in major international events, including the United Nations (UN) climate and Convention to Combat Desertification talks, biological diversity talks, and the Global Forum for Food and Agriculture. Other key milestones may include food security, the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, UN General Assembly Week, and additional Global Landscape Forum (GLF) events. FOLUR will continue to engage with the private sector through key commodity roundtables and initiatives.

## **DEVELOP COALITIONS AROUND KEY COMMODITIES**

Pre-competitive collaboration, where companies work together to address issues that are limiting the industry's overall health and growth, is nurtured through commodity roundtables and private sector convening organizations. These platforms offer competitors the opportunity to share resources, expertise, and knowledge, as well as reach out to stakeholders and development partners to develop solutions to address common concerns.

FOLUR supports the pre-competitive model and assists companies across key value chains to translate commitments into action, focusing on areas where partnerships can move the needle faster.

On commodity-focused and private sector engagements, FOLUR will continue to define and advance strategic opportunities to add value, recognizing the dynamics and challenges of each value chain. Some key areas where FOLUR may help reduce risk and remove barriers for private sector investment and impact include: supporting standards alignment and consolidation, developing guidance on operationalizing standards, advising on the design of communications campaigns to raise awareness and change behaviors, producing knowledge products to address key industry gaps, and facilitating public-private dialogues in countries and landscapes.

The FOLUR Global Platform will likely lead a regional dialogue on low-emission rice in April 2024 to build shared understanding of sustainable production, bringing in smallholder, producer organization, and agroecology perspectives.

Moving into 2024 and beyond, the World Bank looks forward to working with core partners, country projects, the Global Environment Facility (GEF) and all actors across the food value chain to transform our food systems.

## STATUS OF COUNTRY PROJECTS

**Table 2** Status of Country Projects

The status of each country is updated in consultation with the Implementing Agency.

Country	Project Name	Agency	Implementation Status	GEF Grant (US\$)	Co-Finance (US\$)
Brazil	Sustainable Multiple Use Landscape Consortia – Vertentes Project	World Bank	Not yet effective	24,577,982	172,000,000
Burundi	Burundi Landscape Restoration and Resilience Project	World Bank	Under implementation	6,000,000	31,000,000
China	Innovative Transformation of China’s Food Production Systems and Agroecological Landscapes	FAO/World Bank	Under implementation	13,461,468	402,190,000
Cote D’Ivoire	Scaling Up Cocoa-Based Food Systems, Land Use and Restoration/ Transformative Innovations in Côte d’Ivoire	UNDP/ UNIDO/FAO	Under implementation	5,354,587	65,231,987
Ethiopia	Preventing Forest Loss, Promoting Restoration, and Integrating Sustainability into Ethiopia’s Coffee Supply Chains and Food Systems	UNDP	Effective	20,342,202	208,478,969
Ghana	Landscape Restoration and Ecosystem Management for Sustainable Food Systems	World Bank	Under implementation	12,756,881	129,500,000
Guatemala	Promoting Sustainable Landscapes in the Motagua River Watershed	UNDP	Not yet effective	11,162,802	60,017,006
Guinea	Integrated Management of Degraded Landscapes for Sustainable Food Systems and Livelihoods in Guinea Forest Region and Upper Guinea	FAO	Under implementation	9,498,165	43,395,420

(continues)

**Table 2** Status of Country Projects (continued)

Country	Project Name	Agency	Implementation Status	GEF Grant (US\$)	Co-Finance (US\$)
India	Transforming Rice-Wheat Systems in India	FAO	Under implementation	20,366,973	342,427,048
Indonesia	Strengthening Sustainability in Commodity and Food Crop Value Chains, Land Restoration and Land Use Governance through Integrated Landscape Management for Multiple Benefits in Indonesia	UNDP/FAO	Under implementation	16,213,762	132,510,462
Kazakhstan	Promotion of Sustainable Food Systems and Improved Ecosystems Services in Northern Kazakhstan Landscape	UNDP	Not yet effective	10,467,000	132,307,166
Kenya	Integrated Landscape Management for Conservation and Restoration of the Mt. Elgon Ecosystem in Western Kenya	FAO	Under implementation	5,354,587	46,506,320
Liberia	Reducing Deforestation from Palm Oil and Cocoa Value Chains	Conservation International	Under Implementation	7,139,450	66,999,065
Madagascar	Integrated Landscape Management for a Zero-Deforestation Coffee Value Chain in the Central South and Eastern Coast of Madagascar	FAO	Not yet effective	10,980,788	28,884,587
Malaysia	Integrated Landscape Management of Heart of Borneo Landscapes in Sabah and Sarawak	UNDP	Not yet effective	7,368,807	90,000,000
Mexico	Connecting Watershed Health with Beef Production (CONNECTA)	World Bank	Under implementation	13,761,468	99,013,829

(continues)

**Table 2** Status of Country Projects (continued)

Country	Project Name	Agency	Implementation Status	GEF Grant (US\$)	Co-Finance (US\$)
Nicaragua	Transforming Food Systems and Reducing Deforestation in the Protected Areas and Biological Corridors Landscapes from the Southern Caribbean Coast and San Juan River Autonomous Region	FAO	Not yet effective	5,354,587	48,000,000
Nigeria	Promoting Integrated Landscape Management and Sustainable Food Systems in Niger Delta Region in Nigeria	FAO	Under implementation	5,354,590	67,739,549
Papua New Guinea	Establishing Systems for Sustainable Integrated Land-Use Planning Across New Britain Island in Papua New Guinea	UNDP	Under implementation	10,709,174	50,566,514
Paraguay	Promote Landscape Integrity and Sustainable Beef and Soy Value Chains in Two Key Biomes in Paraguay	UNEP	Under implementation	8,189,450	47,568,002
Peru	Deforestation-Free Commodity Supply Chains in the Peruvian Amazon	UNDP/FAO/IFAD	Not yet effective	13,561,467	112,149,960
Tanzania	Food Systems, Land Use and Restoration in Tanzania's Forest Landscapes	World Wildlife Fund/US	Not yet effective	7,368,808	72,686,863
Thailand	Inclusive, Sustainable Rice Landscapes in Thailand	UNEP	Under implementation	5,535,963	67,300,000
Uganda	Promoting Integrated Landscape Management Approach for Conservation of the Mount Elgon Ecosystem in Eastern Uganda	UNEP	Under implementation	9,433,027	82,014,000

(continues)

**Table 2** Status of Country Projects (*continued*)

Country	Project Name	Agency	Implementation Status	GEF Grant (US\$)	Co-Finance (US\$)
Ukraine	Promoting Sustainable Livestock Management and Ecosystem Conservation in Northern Ukraine	UNDP	Not yet effective	6,756,000	67,385,366
Uzbekistan	Food System, Land Use and Restoration Impact Program in Uzbekistan	FAO	Not yet effective, but some project activities implemented	5,992,661	72,754,400
Vietnam	Food System, Land Use and Restoration Impact Program in Vietnam	FAO	Under implementation	5,354,587	77,950,000

Source: FOLUR Global Platform, February 29, 2024.

Note: CONECTA = Connecting Watershed Health with Sustainable Livestock and Agroforestry Production; FAO = Food and Agriculture Organization (of the United Nations); GEF = Global Environment Facility; IFAD = International Fund for Agricultural Development; UNDP = United Nations Development Programme; UNEP = United Nations Environment Programme. UNIDO = United Nations Industrial Development Organization; US = United States.

# ANNEX

## Impact Program Financial Summary

The financial summary of the Food Systems, Land Use and Restoration (FOLUR) Impact Program comprises a Global Knowledge Platform project and 27 country projects. Table A.1 summarizes the total budget allocation across the program.

The FOLUR Impact Program is comprised of a Global Knowledge Platform project and 27 country projects.

**Table A.1 FOLUR Global Impact Program (IP) Resource Allocation**

Budget Allocation Category	GEF Grant Amount* (\$ million)
FOLUR IP Overall	307.39
27 Country Projects	278.26
Global Platform Project	29.13

Source: FOLUR Global Platform as of June 30, 2023.

Note: GEF = Global Environment Facility.

Implementation of country projects is underway to achieve expected outcomes by 2027. As the activities and work planning advance, the country projects are expected to report disbursement progress in the calendar year 2024. Due to the FOLUR Global Platform's annual strategic planning process, the steering committee approved activities to support the effective delivery of commitments.

The FOLUR Global Platform has made notable progress toward advancing core partner activities, as reflected in the current disbursements and commitments, as shown in Table A.2. Core partner and World Bank activities continued to advance with noteworthy progress towards private sector engagements, convening, and representation of FOLUR in global and regional events.

**Table A.2 FOLUR Global Platform Budget Utilization**  
(as of November 2023)

Budget/Spending Category	\$ million
GEF-Approved FOLUR Global Platform Project Budget	29.13
1. Total allocation/commitment amount to core partners*	18.27
1a. Payment to core partners	7.23
2. World Bank allocation amount	10.86
2a. World Bank commitments and disbursements	2.59
2b. World Bank uncommitted balance	8.27

Source: FOLUR Global Platform as of June 30, 2023.

Note: The allocation/grant commitment amount is the amount allocated/signed in contracts with core partner agencies: International Finance Corporation (IFC); the Center for International Forestry Research (CIFOR); Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO); the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP); and the World Research Institute (WRI).





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