



Food and Agriculture
Organization of the
United Nations

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The background of the cover features a photograph of people working in a field, with a prominent green wavy line graphic overlaid across the middle. The text is centered on this graphic.

UN DECADE ON ECOSYSTEM RESTORATION

PARTNERSHIP FRAMEWORK

PARTNERING WITH THE UN DECADE ON ECOSYSTEM RESTORATION

Everyone is invited to take part in the UN Decade on Ecosystem Restoration because only the combined impact of thousands of initiatives – from high-level policy reforms to local grassroots projects – can put our planet and its people back on a sustainable track.

The UN Decade provides a range of engagement options so that every individual or organization can leverage their unique skills and resources to contribute to ecosystem restoration.

It will also connect organizations and individuals to capacity-building resources for those who want to do their share to *'prevent, halt and reverse the degradation of ecosystems worldwide'*, but are not yet sure how best to do so. Individuals and groups of all sizes have a vital role in building **#GenerationRestoration**. Through the UN Decade website, anyone can [join the movement](#), support ground-level ecosystem restoration initiatives, and access [tools and resources](#) to build their own knowledge, projects, and campaigns. They can also share and take part in UN Decade [events](#).



THE UN DECADE PARTNERSHIP FRAMEWORK

Organizations and other entities able to make large-scale or long-term contributions to ecosystem restoration can apply to become official partners of the UN Decade. A framework developed under the UN Decade's guiding [strategy](#) includes eight partnership categories, as detailed below.

Two categories are reserved for UN entities as outlined in the UN General Assembly [resolution](#) that proclaimed the UN Decade. Other prospective partners will be able to apply for the category which best fits their profile, although they may contribute under more than one. Partners will be accepted on a rolling basis. Partners will be selected to represent different stakeholder groups and cover the full range of ecosystems. Priority may be given to specific partner requests at one point in time while others can play a more active role later in making the UN Decade a success.

LEAD AGENCIES

The resolution [A/RES/73/284](#) invites “the United Nations Environment Programme and the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations to lead the implementation of the Decade.” Accordingly, UNEP and FAO are the Lead Agencies for the Decade.



Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations

COLLABORATING AGENCIES

The resolution [A/RES/73/284](#) further identifies Collaborating Agencies for the UN Decade as “the secretariats of the Rio conventions, other relevant multilateral environmental agreements (MEAs) and entities of the United Nations system,” i.e., the Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD), the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC), and the United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification (UNCCD) and concerned entities of the UN system. Accordingly, relevant MEAs and UN System organizations are designated as Collaborating Agencies. FAO and UNEP have invited all members of the UN [Environment Management Group \(EMG\)](#) to consider joining the UN Decade as Collaborating Agencies, and Lead Agencies will update the EMG on the UN Decade regularly.



Convention on Biological Diversity



United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification



United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change



UNEP



GLOBAL PARTNERS

The Global Partners are organizations beyond the UN System who will play an active role in managing and shaping the UN Decade on Ecosystem Restoration. They are among the leading voices on the subject at the world stage. Their commitment is significant and long-term. Most importantly, they are already actively funding and leading efforts

to realize ecosystem restoration across the globe. They are membership-based or partnership-driven entities who pledge to connect their constituents to the UN Decade on Ecosystem Restoration. Initially, the number of Global Partners will be limited to 20 organizations to allow for smooth and adaptive management. This limitation will be revisited regularly.



SELECTION CRITERIA:

- Proposed partner is a leading voice on the subject at the world stage, working either at the global or regional levels or comprehensively covering any one or more aspects of ecosystem restoration
- Endorsed by either a Lead Agency or one of the Collaborating Agencies
- Partner selection is under the responsibility of the UN Decade's Coordination Group after no-objection by current Global Partners
- Existing agreement with one of the UN Decade Lead Agencies (UNEP, FAO) or letter outlining substantial financial, in-kind and/or programmatic contributions to the UN Decade that directly contribute to the implementation of the UN Decade's strategy
- Appoints focal persons (Executive, Thematic, Communication) for the Decade for regular and timely coordination
- Initially, the number of approved Global Partners is restricted to 20 organizations

BENEFITS:

- Recognition and visibility on the UN Decade's Digital Hub and, where appropriate and to the extent possible, in its communication material
- Participation as members in relevant working groups, specialized committees, and other similar forums
- Participation in UN Decade-led public events, as co-organizers and speakers
- Collaboration in launch and implementation of UN Decade's various initiatives
- Verification of on-the-ground restoration initiatives through the UN Decade's partner system (*once the UN Decade Digital Hub is fully operational*)
- Contribution in setting restoration priorities for the UN Decade
- The right to suggest Restoration Implementers, Actors and Supporting Partners for the UN Decade (subject to no-objection by Lead Agencies)

EXPECTATIONS:

- Lead full or substantial implementation of one or more activity sets from the UN Decade's strategy
- Set up a page on own website that links back to the UN Decade's Digital Hub
- Participate actively in reinforcing and further amplifying UN Decade's initiatives through own channels and networks
- Report or help in reporting through the UN Decade Monitoring Task Force on key performance indicators (KPIs), such as hectares restored
- Amplify and further reinforce UN Decade's activities by using own channels and engaging membership base and networks
- Manage requests by own members to link to the UN Decade



SUPPORTING PARTNERS

Ecosystem restoration is a complex task: practices that work in one setting may be harmful to another. It also transcends sectors: restoration can require expertise in finance, entrepreneurship, sociology, agriculture, infrastructure, conservation, digital innovations, urban planning, and many other areas.

To build evidence-based recommendations and reach out into new sectors and communities, the UN Decade on Ecosystem Restoration requires the active support of leading think tanks, implementers, researchers, and facilitators in these fields. Supporting Partners can range from research institutes and universities to advocacy groups. They can be global, regional, or national in geographic focus. They are usually smaller than Global Partners and have a specific geographic or thematic focus within ecosystem restoration.



SELECTION CRITERIA:

- Endorsed by either a Lead Agency, or one of the Collaborating Agencies or by a Global Partner
- Approved by the UN Decade's Coordination Group
- Existing agreement with one of the UN Decade Lead Agencies (UNEP, FAO) or one of the Collaborating Agencies or Global Partners or letter outlining financial, in-kind and/or programmatic contributions to the UN Decade that directly contribute to the implementation of the UN Decade's strategy
- Entity or individual is a leading voice in their respective field
- The entity or individual provides complete and up-to-date information when submitting its partnership request
- Appoints focal persons (Executive, Thematic, Communication) for the Decade for regular and timely coordination
- Private sector entities need to be approved through a due diligence process by one of the lead agencies and sign a declaration form. The agreement needs to clearly state long-term contributions (in-kind).

BENEFITS:

- Recognition and visibility in relevant communication products
- Participation in UN Decade-led public events at the national or sub-national level, as co-organizers and speakers
- Collaboration in implementation of the UN Decade's various communication initiatives at the national or sub-national levels
- Visibility, knowledge sharing and networking opportunities with UN Decade Partners and restoration initiatives on the ground
- Opportunity to contribute to the UN Decade's Task Force on Monitoring and the Task Force on Best Practices, in line with entity's own strategic focus
- The right to suggest Restoration Implementers and Actors for the UN Decade (subject to no-objection by Lead Agencies)

EXPECTATIONS:

- Make specific long-term commitments to the UN Decade such as building evidence-based recommendations and help the UN Decade to reach out into new sectors and communities
- Promote the UN Decade and its activities through own channels, membership base and networks
- Set up a page on own website that links back to the UN Decade's Digital Hub
- Contribute to strengthening restoration capacity among implementers
- Report or help in reporting or verification of key performance indicators (KPIs) such as hectares restored at the national and sub-national levels (through UN Decade Monitoring Task Force)
- Support communication, social mobilization and engagement initiatives and engagements around key dates, events, and milestones
- Support in setting-up or participation in sectoral ecosystem restoration chapters for the UN Decade
- Identify stories or provide inputs or content for chapters on national or sub-national level restoration successes
- Support coordination of UN Decade initiatives within own field of expertise, sector, or network



ACTORS

Thousands of small entities, businesses and individual entrepreneurs play a prominent role in the global restoration movement and in building a restoration economy. Actors for the UN Decade are usually private sector entities (Small and Medium Enterprises) or non-for-profit entities who are actively developing restoration programs and advising, supporting, or facilitating

restoration activities on the ground. Typically, Actor's core (business) purpose is linked to ecosystem restoration (or conservation). Actors are not verified or controlled by UNEP or FAO or by any Collaborating Agency or other UN Decade partner. They will be able to independently sign up to the Digital Hub, and they must sign a declaration statement about adhering to the UN Decade Restoration Principles. Over time, the Digital Hub will include a peer review process for endorsements of Actors.



Onboarding of Actors is currently not yet fully operational (July 2021) and will be gradually increased as the Digital Hub is being developed.

SELECTION CRITERIA:

- Declaration signed and deposited with one of the Lead Agencies, to comply with internationally recognized standards and the UN Decade Restoration Principles
- No-objection process with current UN Decade partners (*once Digital Hub is fully operational*)
- Provides complete and up-to-date information when submitting its partnership request through the Digital Hub, including identifying long-term restoration activities in support of the UN Decade [strategy](#)
- Appoints focal persons (Executive, Thematic, Communication) for the Decade for regular and timely coordination

BENEFITS:

- Recognition and visibility on the UN Decade's Digital Hub
- Participation in UN Decade-led public events at the national or sub-national levels, as co-organizers and speakers
- Collaboration in implementation of UN Decade's various communication initiatives at the national or sub-national levels
- Seek expert support and technical backstopping from a global pool of experts and leading entities in ecosystem restoration

EXPECTATIONS:

- Set up a page on own website that links back to the UN Decade's Digital Hub
- Promote the UN Decade and its activities through own channels, membership-base and networks
- Contribute to strengthening restoration capacity as per the tools, guidelines, and methods provided/advanced by the UN Decade by holding workshops or trainings at the national or sub-national levels
- Report or help in reporting of key performance indicators (KPIs) such as hectares restored at the national and sub-national levels (*through UN Decade Monitoring Task Force*)
- Support country or sub-country levels communication, social mobilization and engagement initiatives and engagements around key dates, events, and milestones
- Identify stories or provide inputs or content to chapters on national or sub-national restoration successes



FUNDING PARTNERS

Funding Partners are individuals or organizations that provide financial contributions to the Multi Partner Trust Fund (MPTF) – the Decade on Ecosystem Restoration’s main financing vehicle, or directly to UNEP or FAO as Lead Agencies of the UN Decade. Funding Partners above USD 10 Million will be invited as member to the Executive Board of the MPTF.

The Executive Board of the MPTF makes all decisions related to financial allocations of the Fund. The UN Decade Advisory Board will connect between overall implementation and the MPTF. It will provide overall advice and guidance on the implementation of the UN Decade, as well as feeding lessons learned, innovation and newest knowledge to the Executive Board.



SELECTION CRITERIA:

- Approved by the UN Decade’s Strategy Group, based on the MPTF, FAO, or UNEP’s legal requirements for donor agreements
- Private sector funding partners and foundations need to be cleared by one of the lead agencies’ due diligence procedures
- Appoints focal persons (Executive, Thematic, Communication) for the Decade for regular and timely coordination

BENEFITS:

- High political exposure as partner in international events and ability to shape main UN Decade activities
- Exposure to new knowledge and thinking on restoration issues, lessons learned and solutions, which could be of benefit for own programmes, including opportunities to link programmes to successful initiatives and partners
- First-hand experience of UN Decade monitoring, to apply lessons learned and identify innovative approaches to regulation and finance
- Opportunity to bring in own (national) experiences to the UN Decade through proposing technical experts to Advisory Board and ad-hoc technical working groups
- MPTF Executive Board: Funding partners with a contribution of at least USD 10 Million will have a permanent seat in the Executive Board
- Funding partners contributing below USD 10 Million participate on a rotational basis

EXPECTATIONS:

- Bringing extensive experiences from own programmes, and providing insights into overcoming major restoration barriers
- Enabling cooperation and synergy between UN Decade activities e.g., flagships and bilateral development programmes
- Functioning as an advocate for the UN Decade in international fora and towards the donor community and potential private sector contributors
- Opportunity to influence the UN Decade’s direction and new initiatives





#GenerationRestoration



UNITED NATIONS DECADE ON
**ECOSYSTEM
RESTORATION**
2021-2030

UN 
environment
programme



Food and Agriculture
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United Nations

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