



BECOMING A RESTORATION FLAGSHIP FOR THE UNITED NATIONS DECADE ON ECOSYSTEM RESTORATION (2021-2030)



VISION

A **world** where – for the health & wellbeing of **all life on Earth** & that of **future generations** – the **relationship** between humans and nature has been **restored**,
where the area of **healthy ecosystems** is **increasing** and where **ecosystem loss**, fragmentation and degradation has been **ended**.



2021: LAUNCH

- Public launch with **World Environment Day 2021** – Reimagine. Recreate. Restore.
- Most successful WED in terms of global reach
- Significant **political and private sector commitments to restoration**
- **Snap Challenge** engages millions on social media around restoration practices
- Global out-of-home marketing campaign across continents
- More than **42,000 media articles** on WED and Decade Launch – 17% increase



2021: NETWORK ACTIVATION

- More than **90 partners** – from UN Agencies to ecopreneurs and restoration implementers – have joined UN Decade
- Outreach through **culture, arts and science**: 1st **Generation Restoration Film Fest mobilizes producers and film-makers**, two major productions on restoration to be released in 2022; **university challenge** launched with Oxford University to mobilize thousands of institutions of higher learning for restoration; **streetart collective** pledges 50 restoration murals across the globe
- UN Decade **Advisory Board** brings together leading thinkers, artists, educators, indigenous rights activists, film-makers and many more for restoration



2021: GUIDANCE & TOOLS

What does **GOOD** restoration look like?



How do we **TRIPLE** investments in nature

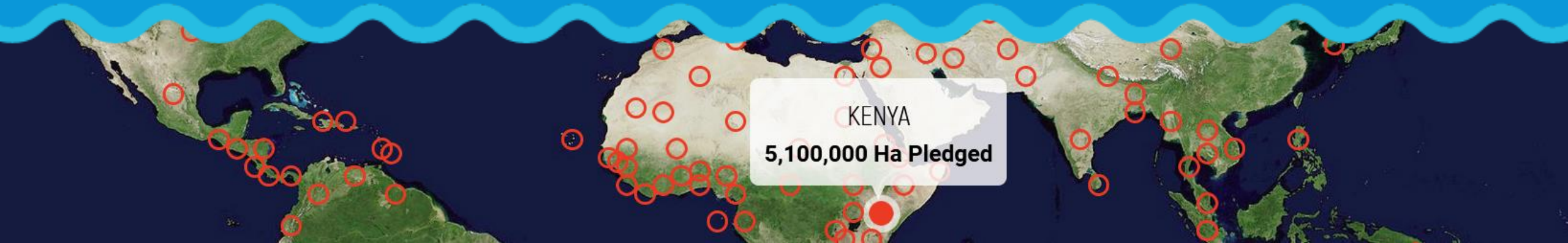


How do we inspire **BILLIONS** of people?



- **10 Principles** guiding Good Ecosystem Restoration published after wide consultative process
- **5 Task Forces** bringing together hundreds of organizations established: Science (IUCN-led), Finance (World Bank), Best Practices (FAO), Monitoring (FAO) and Youth (youth self-organized)

2021: FLAGSHIP REPORT



Countries have already pledged to restore more than **1 billion hectares** – an area larger than China – as part of their commitments to global climate change, biodiversity, land degradation neutrality and Bonn Challenge Goals

BUT...

- little is known about quality of restoration and progress towards goals
- citizens are mostly unaware of pledges to action – within their countries and globally
- restoration success stories and lessons learned not communicated widely

NEED: PUTTING A FACE TO THE PROMISE OF RESTORATION



Ecosystem Restoration is **possible** and **desirable**

Yet, without concrete, widely publicized examples, it **stays abstract and hard to grasp**



Before and after images of restoration at the **Loess Plateau**, where 4 million hectares of land have been restored and incomes of farmers have doubled

NEED: CHANNELING ENTHUSIASM



UNFCCC COP26 alone has seen **pledges** to ecosystem restoration and protection **in the billions** by governments, private sector and philanthropy

But pledges need to result in **action on the ground** and be **targeted** to the places where they matter

The **One Planet Summit** resulted in **USD 19 billion** raised for the Great Green Wall – the world's most prominent ongoing restoration effort

Other types of restoration and ecosystems have high **potential to be brought to the forefront**



NEED: INFORMING AND GUIDING RESTORATION IN PRACTICE

Upscaling and **replicating** existing restoration projects across ecosystems and based on 10 principles for good ecosystem restoration



TEN PRINCIPLES THAT UNDERPIN ECOSYSTEM RESTORATION

NEED: MEASURING PROGRESS AT THE FRONTIERS OF RESTORATION

Preventing, halting and reversing ecosystem degradation by 2030 is a **daunting goal**

Monitoring restoration efforts at specific locations – in addition to global monitoring efforts – is **critical to measuring progress** and **re-evaluating interventions**.

UN Decade has developed the **'Framework for Ecosystem Restoration Monitoring'**



APPROACH: SELECTING AND SHOWCASING OFFICIAL UN DECADE FLAGSHIPS

“UN Decade Flagships are the first, best, or most promising example of ecosystem restoration, adding value and embodying the 10 Restoration Principles, and **inspiring** others to undertake or **accelerate** restoration at **significant scale**”

Strategy for the UN Decade on Ecosystem Restoration



Jake Davies, Project Seagrass, UN Decade Supporting Partner

BENEFITS OF SELECTION AS UN DECADE FLAGSHIP

- Official introduction and **celebration** as part of **Launch Gala**, involving celebrities and Heads of States
- Development of suite of **communication and advocacy tools** (film, press kits, social and more)
- Global and national/regional **outreach and media campaign** introducing official flagships
- Official **association with the UN Decade on Ecosystem Restoration**, use of flagship insignia
- Treated as **example of restoration principles and good practices** in publications, reports
- **Outreach and monitoring focus** throughout the UN Decade
- Showcase to **donors, funding, media, film production** and other partners
- Flagships in ODA- countries may be **eligible for direct financial support** through the **Multi-Partner Trust Fund**



TIMELINE FOR SELECTION OF FIRST TEN FLAGSHIPS

NOVEMBER 2021

Full flagship development on initial flagships proposed by FAO-UNEP (and UNDESA) and **consultation process** with governments and regional/local partners
Consultation and **mobilization** of UN Decade partner on flagships

DECEMBER 2021

Invitation by UNEP and FAO to Member States

MARCH 2022

Open call for flagship nominations accompanied by PSA and global campaign

SEPTEMBER 2022

Announcement of first 10 flagships @ 77th UN General Assembly

THROUGHOUT 2022

Global and national/regional campaigns to boost “Frontiers of Restoration” and garner support for official flagships



NOMINATION PROCESS

Assessment of all received Flagship nominations will be carried out by the UN Decade's **Science Task Force** (led by IUCN) and the **Best Practices Task Force** (led by FAO) between April and June 2022, in consultation with the submitting entity and implementing partners.

The **final approval** will be confirmed by UNEP and FAO. Approval of the selected sub-group of flagships receiving financial support by the Multi-Partner Trust Fund will be given by the Fund's **Executive Board**.

Until **31 March 2022**: Consideration for the first 10 selected Flagship Initiatives with the opening week of the 77th session of the UN General Assembly.

Yearly calls and **nominations on rolling basis** from 2022 onwards

Note:

More than one Flagship Initiative per country can be selected, but we will seek to ensure diversity of ecosystems and balance at global scale.
Any proposal of a Flagship Initiative by a non-state actor will require endorsement by the Government(s) of the country/countries that the Flagship target(s).



CRITERIA – ALL FLAGSHIPS

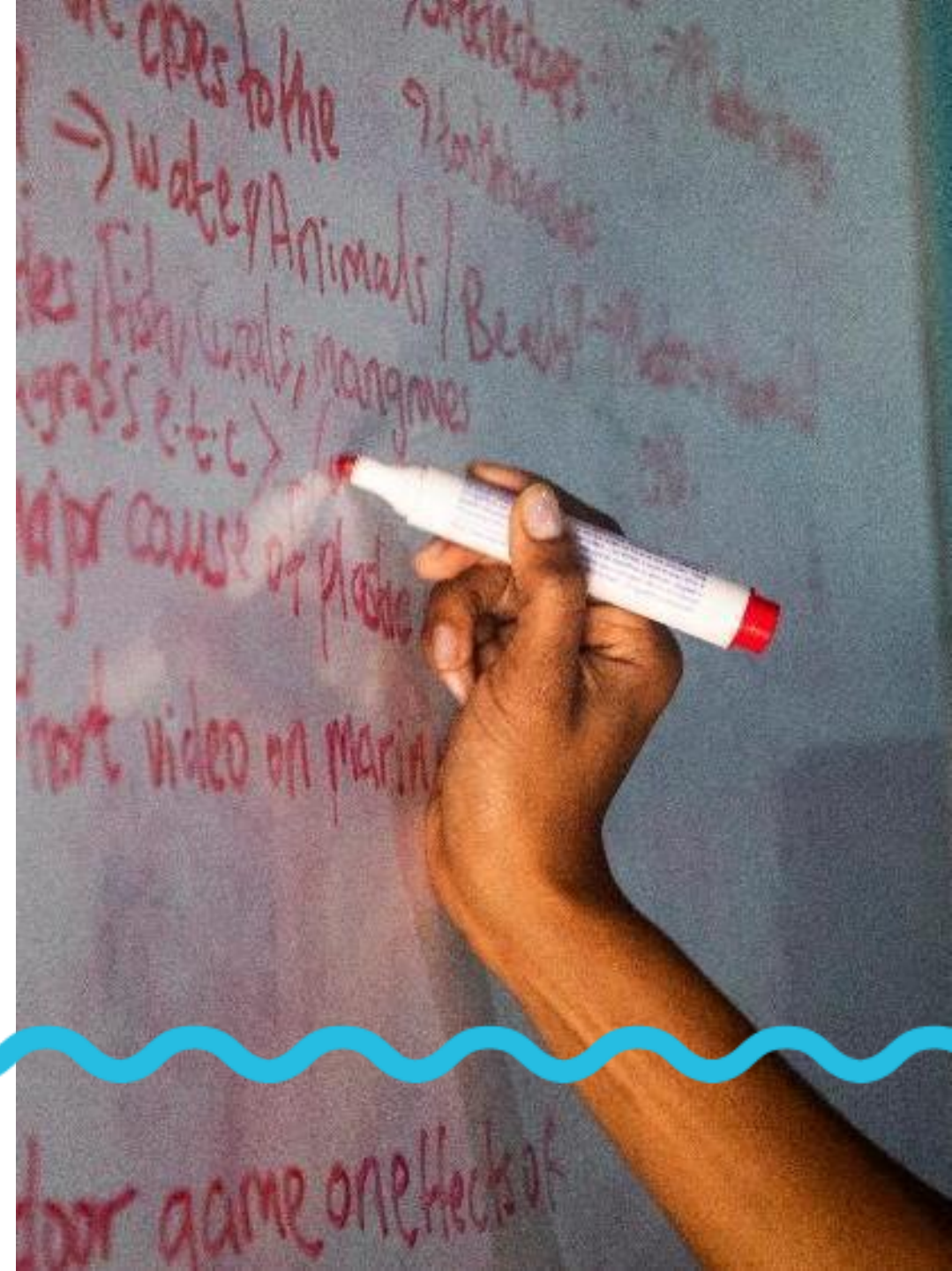
Country demand and **endorsement**

In line with the UN Decade's **10 Principles for Ecosystem Restoration**

Already produced **measurable and documented results**

Demonstration value, lesson learned potential, global and/or regional **relevance**

Significant **size**, either of achieved or planned restoration, or of scaling potential



MODALITY OF SUPPORT – ALL FLAGSHIPS

These are flagship Initiatives representing different ecosystems and geographic areas with proven restoration results, which can be **promoted globally** and bring **lessons learned** to a wider audience. They will be an important source of information and inspiration for stakeholders.

The **barriers** encountered as well as **successes** achieved in such initiatives will be systematically **analyzed and shared by partners**, enabling new initiatives to optimize their approaches based on worldwide experiences.

They will be presented in the **Secretary-General's report to the UN General Assembly in 2025** and **showcased at high-level political events** such as Stockholm+50 and UN General Assembly Opening Week.

These Flagships will be **featured prominently** on the UN Decade website, through media outreach, collaborations with producers and artists, and in events and reports, but UNEP or FAO will not provide financial or technical support to these Flagships through the **Multi-Partner Trust Fund**.



Example: CENTRAL AMERICA DRY CORRIDOR

Geographic locations based on policies and **political commitments** with concrete Restoration Initiatives and preference to cross-border initiatives

Previous **preparatory work** (ROAM and national restoration strategies, research work, etc.)

Collaboration potential with existing projects, programs, and initiatives, e.g. GIZ, GCF

FAO and **UNEP** Regional Offices scoping support options



Corredor Seco Centroamericano y Arco Seco de Panamá



Example: SMALL ISLAND DEVELOPING STATES (SIDS)

3-5 **geographic locations** in the Caribbean, Pacific, and Africa (tbc)

Increase **action on the ground** and **local activities**

SIDS capacities to (i) restore / protect combining ridge-to-reef & seascape management approach (ii) establish sustainable blue/green economy transition support systems and (iii) develop (innovative) sustainable finance and catalyze further investments to upscale and replicate restoration / protection efforts

In partnership with UN DESA



ROLE OF UN DECADE PARTNERS IN FLAGSHIP SUBMISSION

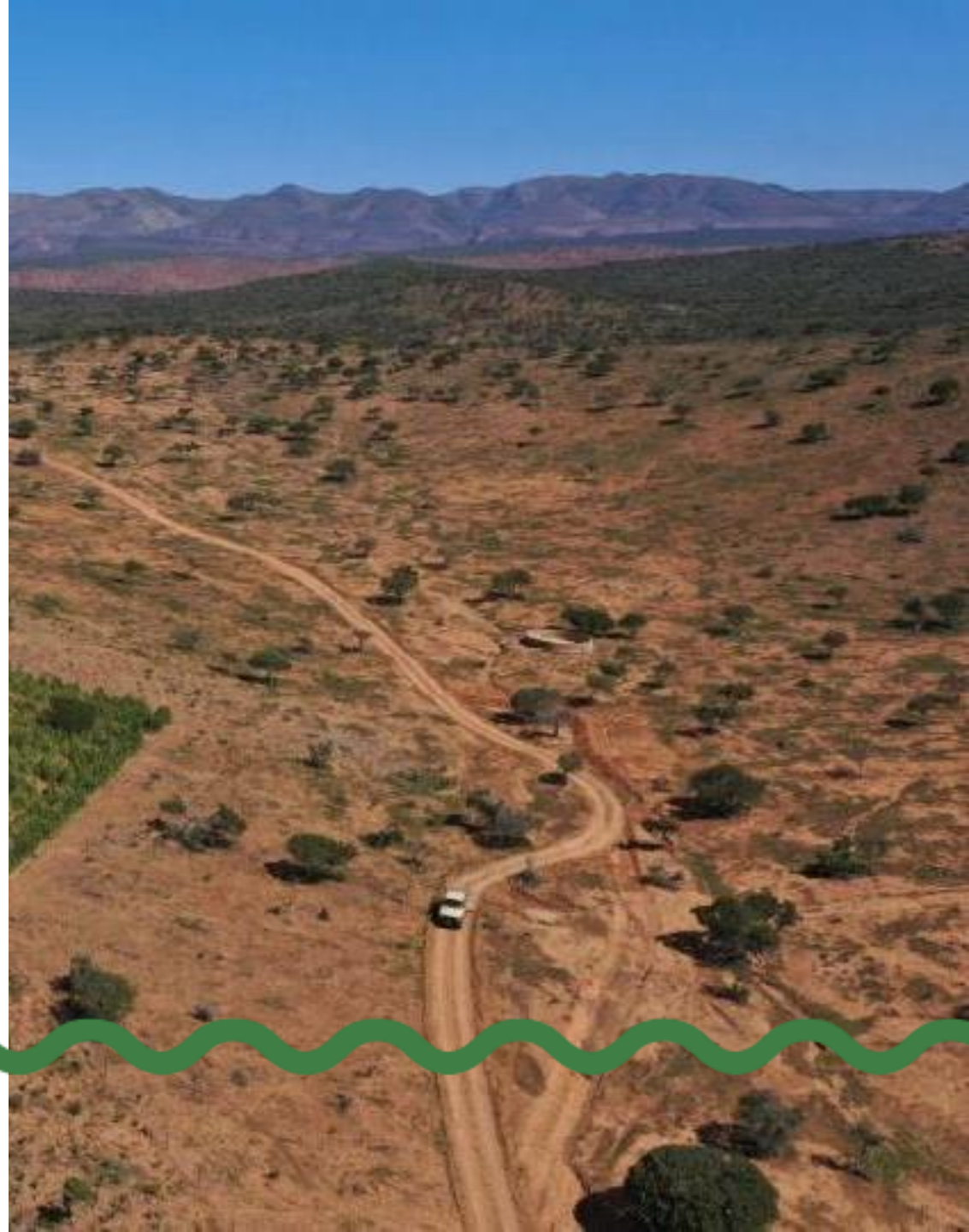
Help **refine criteria** for Flagship selection

Identify promising initiatives with Flagship potential

Encourage government counterparts and help inform submissions

Liaise with like-minded partners working in same areas

Join **global, regional and national-level campaigns** to give a boost to flagship process and selection



2021: A MULTI-PARTNER TRUST FUND FOR THE UN DECADE



Outcome 1:

A **global movement** on ecosystem restoration established that catalyzes restoration initiatives, political will, exchange of knowledge, and cross-sectoral collaboration – with a focus on support for and within flagship countries and regions

Outcome 2:

Increased **capacity and capability** in private, public sector and civil society for policy reform, to catalyze investments and to access resources are resulting in restoration actions on the ground and implementation within Flagship programmes

Outcome 3:

Results documented and shared, through **monitoring and reporting of biophysical and socio-economic elements** of sustainable ecosystem restoration and influencing activities for ecosystem restoration



JOIN #GENERATIONRESTORATION

THANK YOU



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



Food and Agriculture
Organization of the
United Nations