

Nairobi / Rome, 5 January 2022

Excellency,

On 5 June 2021, our two organizations together with hundreds of Governments and partners around the world launched the [United Nations Decade on Ecosystem Restoration 2021-2030](#). The primary aims of the Decade are to support and scale up efforts to prevent, halt and reverse the degradation of ecosystems worldwide and raise awareness of the importance of successful ecosystem restoration (A/RES/73/284).

In that context, we have the honour to inform you that the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO) and the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP) are now inviting all UN Member States to nominate 'Flagship Initiatives' for the UN Decade.

Restoration Flagship Initiatives of the UN Decade should be the first, best, or most promising examples of large-scale and long-term ecosystem restoration in a country or region, embodying the [10 Restoration Principles of the UN Decade](#). Flagship Initiatives will be instrumental to inspire others to undertake or accelerate restoration at significant scale. In essence, we are asking you to nominate the restoration areas for which your country or region would like to be globally known, and which you would like to promote throughout the UN Decade, and where FAO and UNEP can help you to share knowledge and experience.

FAO and UNEP, and our now more than 80 [partner](#) organizations, are ready to engage and support Governments in the identification and implementation of Flagship Initiatives. For Flagship Initiatives in developing countries, funding and technical support from the [Multi-Partner Trust Fund](#) of the UN Decade may be provided, subject to selection criteria and availability of resources.

The first 10 selected Flagship Initiatives, if submitted before 31 March 2022, will be presented during the 77th session of the United Nations General Assembly in 2022. Submissions from developing countries will be considered for support by the [Multi-Partner Trust Fund](#). We attach the criteria and submission process for Flagship Initiatives.

We would also like to cordially invite you to provide comments to the Action Plan for the UN Decade, which will guide the implementation of the [strategy](#), which was developed based on over 2,500 comments from Member States and stakeholders. A draft of the Action Plan is available online at this [link](#), and we are kindly asking for your comments by 31 January 2022.

For any questions or comments, and for nomination of Flagship Initiatives, please contact our teams by email to restorationdecade@un.org and decade-on-restoration@fao.org.

We look forward to our continued collaboration to make the UN Decade a turning point for ecosystem restoration globally.

Please accept, Excellency, the assurances of our highest consideration.



Inger Andersen
(Executive Director, UNEP)



QU Dongyu
(Director-General, FAO)