UN DECADE ON ECOSYSTEM RESTORATION
2021 – 2030

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26 March 2024, CPR Subcommittee
Science and Policy

The Science Basis:

10 years to avoid catastrophic climate change and biodiversity loss (IPCC, IPBES)

40% of world’s population suffering the effects of soil degradation (IPBES)

Policy Background:

March 2019, UN General Assembly resolution proclaimed UN Decade on Ecosystem Restoration to support and scale up efforts to prevent, halt and reverse the degradation of ecosystems worldwide.

FAO and UNEP co-lead.

September 2020, release of the strategy and visual identity.
THE ROAD TO 2030

Strategy → 3 pathways

1. Build a Global Movement
2. Generate political support
3. Develop capacity

Structure:
1. Advisory Board: 30+ Global Experts
2. Partners Network: 250+ Organizations
1. Growing **partner network**: 250+ organizations.

2. 7 new **UN World Restoration Flagships**: together, the 17 initiatives, are reviving over 100 million ha of different ecosystems and creating over 5 million jobs.


4. **Global Biodiversity Framework, Target 2 (CBD)**

5. **Action Plan**: 12 key areas + measurable goals (challenges): Freshwater Challenge, Education Challenge, #GenerationRestoration Cities

6. **Multi-Partner Trust Fund (MPTF)**: UN Decade implementation
FROM COMMITMENTS TO ACTION ON THE GROUND

The most ambitious and successful examples of large-scale and long-term ecosystem restoration.

Embodying the 10 Restoration Principles of the UN Decade.

Inspiring others to undertake or accelerate restoration at a significant scale.
WHY AWARD UN WORLD RESTORATION FLAGSHIPS?

• Scientific Launch Report: **Countries have promised to restore 1 billion hectares** – shows but it is not clear where & to what quality.

• With UN World Restoration Flagships, the UN Decade is asking countries: **What do you restore?** & celebrates **beacons of hope**.

UN World Restoration Flagships do:

• Inspire **scaling up** restoration efforts.

• Attract **global attention** and **investments**

• **Chronicle stories, monitor progress and inspire action.**

• Provide **key lessons** for the global restoration movement.
RESULTS OF THE FIRST CALL

• **17 Flagships** announced at CBD COP15 and UNEA-6
• Over **48 million impressions** on UNEP social media, 100 million with partner channel reach.
• Over **5 billion readers** reached through **2,000 media articles** in 1,000+ outlets, 65 countries and **16 languages**; incl. Reuters, CNN and regional leaders.
• **19 Million viewers** of the documentary series, Science Film Festival Jury Award.
• Packed Restoration Day at **CBD COP15, Gaia of Hope at UNEA-6**.
• Funding interest upon launch from **Bezos Earth Fund, Ecological Restoration Fund, Earth Percent, Salesforce**.
WHY BECOME A UN WORLD RESTORATION FLAGSHIP?

• **UN recognition** as one of the planet’s foremost examples of reviving Earth.

• **Technical & monitoring** support.

• Communication support to **make restoration efforts famous** – reaching billions of people.

• **Financial support** of up to **USD 500,000** per Flagship in eligible countries.
2024 NEW CALL FOR FLAGSHIPS

HOW TO NOMINATE?

• Only UN Member States, Regional Organizations, or UN Decade Partners can nominate.

• Countries can nominate more than one Flagship, but the final selection will aim to ensure diversity.

• Guidelines for application are available on the UN Decade website.

• Deadline: 30 April 2024
Standards of Practice for the Decade

• 300+ recommendations to apply the 10 principles across the entire restoration process

• Organized by components and subcomponents

• Generally applicable to all types of restorative activities and ecosystems
Framework for Ecosystem Restoration Monitoring (FERM)

Official Monitoring Platform for the Decade to:

- Track global progress and disseminate good practices
- Support countries to report areas under restoration for the Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework Target 2

ferm.fao.org/
ACTION PLAN 2021 - 2030

• Global plan to move from Strategy to Action.
• Tool for all partners to collaborate and lead on thematic contributions of the UN Decade to global goals and the SDGs.
• Formalizing thematic leadership by partners.
• Challenges will be highlighted in Secretary-General Reports on the UN Decade.
• Kickstarting launches on Faith, Indigenous Peoples, and Finance at GLF Climate in November 2022, Water Challenge at the UN-Water Conference in March 2023 etc.
• Update of the Plan in 2024-2025 to reflect the developments and new commitments
The UN Secretary-General's report to the UN General Assembly in 2025 will inform on the UN Decade’s implementation as well as planning till 2030. Additionally, the Restoration Gap report to provide more details and data on restoration status quo and ideas on the next steps.

When Decade was launched in 2021, there was no comprehensive account of the state of degradation and global restoration needs across ecosystems. A launch report assessing available science found that governments had already pledged to restore more than 1 billion hectares – an area larger than China.

The UN Decade has since urged stakeholders to move from “committing to actions to acting on commitments”. In late 2022, countries agreed on a new deal for nature – the Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework. This milestone agreement includes a clear target for ecosystem restoration, guiding the UN Decade on Ecosystem Restoration: Bringing 30% of degraded areas (terrestrial and aquatic) under effective restoration by 2030.
OCCORTUNITIES TO ENGAGE

• Share information on the UN Decade activities and the 2024 call for World Restoration Flagships with national partners and potential applicants.

• Support the nomination process and the restoration movement to enhance global restoration efforts.

• Contribute to the replenishment of the UN Decade MPTF to advance restoration science, implementation, monitoring and movement building worldwide.
JOIN #GENERATIONRESTORATION

THANK YOU
APPLY BY 30 APRIL 2024

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=D4mQZ0mEe7M