

Actors of UN Decade on Ecosystem Restoration (2021-2030)

Declaration

By signing this commitment and taking part in the UN Decade on Ecosystems Restoration, _____ indicates its acceptance of the terms and conditions set hereunder. These terms and conditions and _____'s overall participation in the UN Decade on Ecosystems Restoration are governed by the United Nations rules, regulations and policies.

This Declaration represents the set of values, principles and rules that Actors of the UN Decade on Ecosystems Restoration are expected to comply with. This Declaration is however legally separate from any United Nations due diligence process for partnerships, and Actors of the UN Decade on Ecosystems Restoration will not be registered or considered as vetted partners of UNEP and FAO.

All trademarks, logos and brands of UNEP and FAO - other than the UN Decade resources provided and following the UN Decade brand guidelines - are the property of UNEP and FAO. No intellectual property rights or licences are granted or may be derived from their reproduction on this commitment. No part of this commitment may be reproduced, altered or used without the prior written consent of UNEP and FAO.

UNEP and FAO do not undertake that Actors will obtain profits from their participation in the UN Decade on Ecosystems Restoration, nor shall they accept any liability for any investment losses.

UNEP and FAO shall not accept any liability for the accuracy of the information on sites of other organisations to which access may be directly obtained by following hyperlinks from this commitment, nor shall UNEP and FAO be held liable for losses arising out of the use of the hyperlinks.

UNEP and FAO shall not accept any liability for claims arising out of the activities performed by _____, or any claims for death, bodily injury, disability, damage to property or other hazards that may be suffered by Personnel of _____ as a result of their work pertaining to the activities relating to the UN Decade on Ecosystems Restoration.

UNEP and FAO reserve the right to alter, amend, remove and update the contents of this commitment at any time according to any modifications of the United Nations rules, regulations and policies or the principles of the UN Decade on Ecosystems Restoration.

If potential signatories do not agree with the content of this disclaimer, they will not be registered as actors of the UN Decade on Ecosystems Restoration.

In case of questions, please contact us at restorationdecade@un.org.

Commitments:

As an Actor of the UN Decade on Ecosystems Restoration, _____ commits to:

1. Comply with the [Ten Principles of the UN Global Compact](#)

Corporate sustainability starts with a company's value system and a principles-based approach to doing business. This means operating in ways that, at a minimum, meet fundamental responsibilities in the areas of human rights, labour, environment and anti-corruption. Responsible businesses enact the same values and principles wherever they have a presence and know that good practices in one area do not offset harm in another. By incorporating the Ten Principles of the UN Global Compact into strategies, policies and procedures, and establishing a culture of integrity, companies are not only upholding their basic responsibilities to people and planet, but also setting the stage for long-term success.

The Ten Principles of the United Nations Global Compact are derived from: the [Universal Declaration of Human Rights](#), the [International Labour Organization's Declaration on Fundamental Principles and Rights at Work](#), the [Rio Declaration on Environment and Development](#), and the [United Nations Convention Against Corruption](#).

2. Comply with the [UN Decade on Ecosystem Restoration Principles \(Link to be inserted\)](#)

The Best Practices Task Force of the UN Decade partnered with the *International Union for Conservation of Nature* (IUCN) and the *Society for Ecological Restoration* (SER) to develop eight guiding principles for the UN Decade on Ecosystem Restoration ensuring that restoration activities are sustainable, participatory and inclusive, non-discriminatory, integrates policies and measures to enhance and scale up interventions, and contribute to the long-term goals of the UN Decade.

At the initial phases of planning any restoration project, programme or intervention, partners must define a long-term vision, with well-defined, measurable long-term restoration methods, goals and gains, as well as objectives for multiple short and long-term milestones. Goals and objectives must include specific targets and associated indicators and, for each, the desired action (e.g. increase, decrease, maintain), quantity (% change), and timeframe (e.g. years). This level of detail is needed to develop and communicate a shared vision of the restorative action and for effective and continuous evaluation of restoration success.

These principles further demand that private sector investments in restoration in the context of climate action must be based on sound science-based targets and lead to a clear pathway towards net zero. Ecosystem restoration and the sound stewardship of nature can only be successful in the long-term in the context of a wider socio-economic transition towards a nature positive economy, by decoupling economic growth from natural resource use, and detoxifying and decarbonizing economic activity.

3. Comply with the [UN Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples \(UNDRIP\)](#)

The UN Decade strategy recognizes the importance of indigenous knowledge and the inclusion of indigenous peoples as active stakeholders across the UN Decade activities. The UN Decade adheres to ensuring the inclusion and participation of indigenous peoples' authorities and representatives. This inclusion recognizes indigenous peoples' role as guardians of 80% of the world's biodiversity and as proprietary holders of Traditional (Environmental) Knowledge and ancestral food systems. As such, partners comply to the UN Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples which is the most comprehensive international instrument on the rights of indigenous peoples. It establishes a universal framework of minimum standards for the survival, dignity and well-being of the indigenous peoples of the world and it elaborates on existing human rights standards and fundamental freedoms as they apply to the specific situation of indigenous peoples. Free, Prior and Informed Consent (FPIC) is one such method and included in the UNDRIP. It allows indigenous groups to give or withhold consent to a project that may affect them or their territories. It aims to establish bottom-up participation and consultation of an indigenous population prior to the beginning of development on ancestral land or using resources in an indigenous population's territory.

Please also see the [Environmental and social management guidelines](#) and the [Manual for Project Practitioners](#).

4. Comply with the ISO standards for sustainable forestry and environmental management

A time-bound compliance to operating to existing good-practice standards of ISO, is part of basic eligibility criteria for any affiliation to the UN Decade.

Entities engaging in the restoration of forests must comply to [ISO 14055-1](#), *Environmental management – Guidelines for establishing good practices for combatting land degradation and desertification – Part 1: Good practices framework*, which provides good-practice guidelines for tackling land degradation and desertification in arid and non-arid regions. The standard refers to actions or interventions undertaken with the purpose of preventing or minimizing land degradation or, where land is already degraded, aiding its recovery to improve productivity and ecosystem health. It covers aspects such as the respect for human rights, forest management and agricultural practices, climate conditions and industrial activities.

Where entities engage in (future) forestry, they must comply to [ISO 38200](#), *Chain of custody of wood and wood-based products*, which facilitates sustainable forestry through enabling the traceability of wood products. It provides reassurance to customers of wood suppliers that products come from legally harvested sources along the whole supply chain, thus encouraging the use of sustainable wood and deterring illegal methods. Nevertheless, long-term restoration goals and indicators must be clearly defined and presented.

5. Comply with the [UN Decade Brand Guide](#) for use of the UN Decade logo

The UN Decade's logo is available at this [link](#) in multiple versions. Private sector entities must request prior authorization from the UN Decade's Team on use of the visual identity for fundraising and/or commercial purposes. Partners must only use the UN Decade's logo in the lock-up version – in combination with their's. Use of logos of either UNEP or FAO or both, along with partner logo in the UN Decade's logo lockup is only allowed when authorized. Steps for requesting authorization to use the UN Decade's visual identity can be found in the Guidelines for the use of the United Nations Decade on Ecosystem Restoration identity and [Waiver of Liability](#).

_____ shall only use the UN Environment Programme's name, logo and emblem in connection with the Project/Programme with the prior written consent of UNEP. In no event will authorization of the UN Environment Programme's name or emblem, or any abbreviation thereof, be granted for commercial purposes.

6. Actors must regularly update information on progress towards their stated goals

An interactive, digital platform represents the 'home' of the UN Decade to connect, track, and build the world's largest database of ongoing restoration initiatives and engaged supporters. Actors can share their knowledge and lessons learned on this hub for which they identify and communicate the name of a focal point within the entity to regularly provide information on the Digital Hub.

7. Consider further climate commitments

Restoration does not replace decarbonization. While not obliged to comply, entities are encouraged to adopt the following climate commitments, inspired by the [LEAF Coalition](#) requirements for corporate forest carbon buyers of jurisdictional emissions reductions

- a. join UNFCCC's [Race to Zero](#) campaign;
- b. publicly commit to [SBTi](#), independently verified decarbonization targets; and/or
- c. publicly report a GHG inventory following the [Greenhouse Gas Protocol](#) (GHGP).

8. Ready to update operation of the partnership based on new findings from UN Decade Best Practice Task Force

Name:

Signature & stamp:

Date: