UNFCCC COP 26
Glasgow, UK

Concept Note
Land Use Action Event:
*Transforming the land use system with nature and health at the center of the climate crisis and global recovery*

Marrakech Partnership for Global Climate Action

6 November 2021

Organised by IUCN, FAO, CDP, the Marrakech Partnership and the High-Level Climate Champions.
### Description

The event will provide an inspiring vision of the land use sector that enhances resilience, strengthens adaptation, halves emissions and reverses biodiversity loss by 2030. The event will present concrete actions and pledges by national governments, cities, subnational regions, businesses, investors, civil society, youth and indigenous peoples contributing to Race to Zero, Race to Resilience and implementation of the Paris Agreement by:

- Transforming land use sector with a focus on conservation and restoration;
- Moving towards nature positive financing mechanisms;
- Implementing regenerative and resilient food systems.

### Objectives

The Land Use Action Pathways goals and milestones, developed under the Marrakech Partnership for Global Climate Action, seek to achieve the full contribution of the land-use sector as one of the main natural climate solutions to the Paris Agreement goals through conservation, restoration, and improved land management actions in forests, wetlands, grassland biomes, agricultural lands and rural-urban food systems as well as measures in the food and wood supply chain, consumption, diets and waste. The event will exemplify how the goals and milestones of the Land Use Action Pathway illustrate collective action towards a climate-smart economy and adapted and resilient societies that are rooted in science-based targets in line with achieving mitigation potential and carbon neutrality in land use sectors by 2050.

The event will serve as a platform for linking various work streams under UNFCCC, including other MPGCA thematic pathways (water, oceans and coastal zones, climate resilience, finance, human settlements, industry, energy, and transport) the Nairobi Work Programme, the Koronivia Joint Work on Agriculture, Indigenous Peoples and Local Communities Platform, as well as priority agenda items of COP26 (i.e. finance, mitigation, adaptation planning, inclusive action, transparency etc.) and inspire immediate ambitious action for the delivering the Paris Agreement under the overarching SDGs.

### Participants

The participants and speakers will represent the following stakeholders:

- **Private sector companies** who are taking climate action and have a strong commitment to decarbonize their operations or portfolio under the land-use sector through NbS.
- **Private financial institutions** in the areas of climate and biodiversity.
- **Public finance actors** ODA, IFI, etc.
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|   | o **Local actors**, including representatives from Indigenous Peoples and local governments and communities, farmer organizations and small-scale entrepreneurs who rely on land use sectors to provide their livelihoods.  
|   | o **Country, region and cities representatives** who are leading the expanded implementation of NbS in their national and subnational climate change policies and practices.  
|   | o **Civil society** who is advocating for climate action in the land-use sector, food system transformation and NbS  
|   | o **Research institutions** working on NbS and food system transformation to achieve a sustainable and resilient 1.5°C world.  
|   | o **Intergovernmental organizations** and frameworks with a direct impact on NbS and Food Systems Transformation.  

**Key messages**

- It is imperative to **accelerate urgent transformation** towards a just and green economy based on **safe, resilient, climate-friendly and nature positive food and land-use systems**. These are currently the largest source of emissions, but also have the potential to pivot from net source to net sink of GHGs if measures are taken to radically transform land-use systems. Call for action to ramp up restoration in this decade, halting and reversing nature loss by 2030 and aim for a full recovery of ecosystems by 2050.

- Collective action is critical, therefore **state** (including national, regional and local governments) and **non-state actors** (including business, civil society, small scale farmers and food producers and others) need to **work together to mitigate around 50MtCO2eq** from land use by 2030 and to be carbon negative by 2050 (Race to Zero Campaign goals). **Scientific clarity** on pathways for the sector needs to be strengthened and agreed upon urgently in order to guide action and investment, in particular with regard to the role and size of carbon sequestration.

- The **finance sector** needs to realign **capital investment for a green economy and transform food and land-use systems**. Financial institutions take the lead to halt deforestation by 2025 and increase financial flows for NBS. **Jurisdictional** approaches are a critical tool to halt deforestation, reinforce government leadership, strengthen multi-stakeholder processes, provide an enabling environment for companies and financial institutions, and ensure inclusiveness and **climate justice** for Indigenous Peoples and local communities.