



UNFCCC COP 24 Katowice, Poland

Outcome Document Action Event: Land Use

Marrakech Partnership for Global Climate Action

Saturday, 8 December 2018
15:00 – 18:00

Organised by:

Environmental Defense Fund,
Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO),
Government of Norway,
International Union for Conservation of Nature (IUCN),
United Nations Development Programme (UNDP),
World Wildlife Foundation (WWF)

Section 1 – Outcomes of the Action Event at COP 24

Key Messages

Land use practices and loss of forests and other ecosystems are responsible for nearly a quarter (24%) of global emissions, but the land use sector also provides key solutions to tackle climate change and to achieve the Paris Agreement. Nature-based solutions to climate change such as conservation, restoration and improved land management can build low-carbon emission and resilient forest and productive landscapes and livelihoods and can deliver 30% of the negative emissions needed by 2030. However, current practices, ambitions and actionable targets, reflected in countries' commitments under the Paris Agreement are insufficient and the event underlined that achieving the Paris Agreement and the Sustainable Development Goals requires present-day transformational changes in how we manage our land and how we produce and consume food and other land-use-based commodities.

There is irreversible, global momentum for climate action. In the last decade, we have come a long way - the land sector is taking the lead on building integrated and impactful strategies that produce tangible benefits for landscapes, livelihoods, and governance. This moment is part of a powerful movement to create a revolution in how we use land. State and non-state actors must act in collaboration to amplify the impact of our actions. We still have more to do to break down silos within the land sector if we want to tackle the land-based drivers of climate change. The kind of progress we need will only be possible if we act together, in partnership and alignment.

The event showcased encouraging initiatives leading the way towards these transformational changes:

- National and subnational governments are making significant progress by aligning cross-sectoral and multi-level policies, as in the case of El Salvador and Yucatán.
- Public-private collaboration is harnessing innovation to foster a transition to low-carbon emission and climate resilient landscapes and livelihoods, as in the case of Ghana, as well as being instrumental for leveraging public and private finance as in the case of Tanzania.
- Breaking the silos within the Land sector towards coherent and integrated land use policies is enabling countries and subnational jurisdictions to maximize the synergies land-based mitigation efforts and adaptation needs, as in the case of California where improved land management is essential to reduce climate risk and ensure water security.

Impacts and progress showcased

Short-term goals for 2020

- *Maximize the mitigation, adaptation and resilience potential of nature-based climate solutions.* There's an urgent need to increase climate ambition through science-based and actionable NDC commitments, and accelerate efforts to move from commitments into action.
- *At least halve the rate of loss of natural forests and other ecosystems globally by 2020.* Scale up and accelerate the implementation of nature-based solutions to reduce emissions from forests and ecosystems loss and degradation, while unlocking the mitigation potential of the Land sector through optimal portfolio of mitigation actions to maximize carbon dioxide removals including mechanisms for soil carbon storage and sequestration and ensuring synergies with adaptation, enhanced resilience and provision of other ecosystem services.
- *Strengthen multi-sector and multi-stakeholder collaboration for coherent policy frameworks in the Land sector, including forests and other ecosystems, and agriculture.* Far reaching, sustainable and effective climate action in the Land sector requires that they are adequately reflected in (and supported through) national climate policy and robust governance systems. Systematic mainstreaming of climate change considerations (including mitigation, adaptation and resilience) in sectoral policy frameworks, and coherence across policy areas is urgent to increase climate ambition and accelerate more efficient implementation of Nationally Determined Contributions (NDCs).
- *Scale up and accelerate public-private partnerships and investments for far reaching deployment of nature-based solutions to climate change.* Strong dialogue and collaboration between the public and private sectors is key to ensure alignment between public policy and private sector investment decisions in Land sector, including forests and agriculture. They also provide an important basis to pool human and financial resources to scale up climate action on the ground for low carbon climate resilient landscape and livelihoods.
- In line with, and *building on the Koronivia Joint Work on Agriculture*, advocate for the Land sector (including food security and nutrition, rural livelihoods and natural resource management, nature-based solutions, farm and landscape restoration, agro-sylvo-pastoral and forest and other ecosystem conservation) in the international, regional and national arenas as solutions for tackling climate change, while contributing to global efforts to eliminate forest loss and degradation from food and commodity production.
- Promote the use of a common set of indicators to track progress at both national and local levels on actions towards low carbon and climate resilient farms, landscape and food systems across the SDGs and other global policy processes such as the Paris Agreement, the Sendai framework, the UNCCD, the UN CBD.

Mid-term goals for 2030

- Strengthen governance systems for the Land Sector, including formalizing equal access and rights to tenure and user rights to natural resources. Insecure tenure discourages long-term planning in favour of maximizing short-term profits and constrains the effective implementation of climate change adaptation and mitigation actions. Insecure land tenure, has proved to be a major barrier to the adoption of practices and technologies (e.g. forest, soil, water, and land and agriculture management) that reduce vulnerability to climate change.
- In order to deliver the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, decouple forests and ecosystem loss and degradation from economic development and invest in low-emissions and climate resilient farms, forests and landscapes and food systems in order to transform the whole of society to contribute to the 1.5 degree target.
- Contribute to zero hunger by extending engagement on climate change and Land Sector, including forests and agriculture, in for dealing with humanitarian issues, conflicts, migration, and sustaining peace.
- Convene multi-country technical and policy exchanges to address implementation challenges and emerging issues constraining greater climate action in the Land sector, including forests, other ecosystems and agriculture, and climate change.
- Scale-up public and private and blended climate finance flows to the Land sector, including forests, other ecosystems and agriculture, and utilize them in a catalytic manner. Build capacity to address barriers to implement climate action in Land sector, including forests and agriculture – including socio-economic, institutional, technical and technological, financial and environmental - and meet the needs of the most vulnerable with livelihoods depend on renewable natural resources.

Long-term goals for 2050

- Deployment of large-scale nature-based solutions that enables a transformational shift in the Land sector for far reaching, multi-level and cross-sectoral climate action that:
 - Achieves net-zero emissions in Land sectors by halving forest and ecosystem loss and enhancing carbon storage and sequestration.
 - Enhances the resilience of natural and human systems by acknowledging that risks to food, water and energy security can overlap spatially and temporally.
 - Sustainably meet global food demand while restoring and maintaining resilient and functioning ecosystems.
 - Transform food production and consumption systems that can simultaneously meet climate, economic, environmental and social targets.

High-impact levers, progress made and new initiatives or commitments on climate action during 2018.

- In September 2018 we saw a groundswell of climate action in the land sector and a strong willingness to step up by all kinds of non-state actors, including 17 announcements made under the umbrella of the 30x30 Forests, Food and Land Challenge from the GCAS main stage. These partners – both new and familiar – are eager to be a part of the solution, and to partner with governments to make meaningful contributions to building low-carbon, resilient landscapes and shifting to sustainable, climate-smart economies.
- The Government of Yucatan started the implementation of their investment plan for addressing deforestation and forest degradation at the jurisdictional level through public private partnerships.
- The Government of Ghana announced significant progress for eliminating deforestation from cocoa landscape by restoring forests and agricultural landscapes under the Cocoa & Forests Initiative, in partnership with the government of Cote d'Ivoire and 30 companies.
- El Salvador showed us that it's possible to maximize the synergies between mitigation and adaptation through the restoration of 2 million hectares of degraded landscapes while minimizing the competition between land uses, boosting their agricultural productivity and increasing the ecosystem resilience and water security while simultaneously meeting their commitments under the Paris Agreement, Aichi Targets and the Bonn Challenge.
- Indigenous Peoples from the Amazon Basin participated in the Talanoa Dialogue, filing an official submission which offers concrete solutions on their contribution to the achievement of their countries' NDCs.
- The Regional Consortium for Agricultural Experimentation - Consorcio Regional de Experimentación Agrícola, CREA - united over 2000 producers in Argentina to partner up with Buenos Aires city government, municipalities, banks, universities, and global companies like Patagonia, in the first Alliance for Climate Action in the country, to take actions to decrease their emissions from production, to incentivize others to increase their climate ambition.
- The World Farmers Organization launched its climate change action plan "Farmers Driven Climate Agenda", which will give particular substance to operationalize the initiative, confirming the WFO member organizations' willingness to implement bottom-up approaches to will guide farmers taking climate action.
- The Global Center on Adaptation announced a flagship report on adaptation practices, which is currently under preparation and will be launched at Secretary General's Climate Summit in 2019.
- With the landmark "Koronivia Joint Work on Agriculture" adopted at COP23 under the UNFCCC, Parties formally recognize the role of agriculture in tackling climate change, eradicating hunger and reducing poverty. The following adoption of the roadmap and technical workshops is helping countries to revise and better integrate climate action in agriculture sectors in their NDCs.