



RESTORE 
OUR FUTURE
BONN CHALLENGE

GEF Support to Restoration



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Webinar on Financing Forest Landscape Restoration in Eastern and South-East Europe

16 July 2020

14:00 Geneva time



Ongoing GEF Support to Restoration

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- Since GEF-5 (2010) restoration is eligible for GEF funding and increasingly requests were made by developing countries
- Since GEF-6 (2014) GEF's SFM program supported restoration through a dedicated funding window, mobilizing \$300 million in GEF grants
- One example is the \$54 million program “The Restoration Initiative” (with IUCN, FAO, UNEP) – active in 10 countries in Africa and Asia
- Since GEF-7 (2018) restoration is funded through Impact Programs (e.g. FOLUR, SFM) and Land Degradation focal area projects
- ECCA region: a number of projects with restoration components in several countries: Uzbekistan, Kazakhstan, Ukraine, Belarus, Turkey, Georgia, Armenia, etc.
- In total ~10 million ha under restoration through GEF support

Common Features of GEF support

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- GEF programming is country driven and projects based on country ownership (each country has a “STAR” allocation)
- Integrated approaches at scale (“Impact Programs”, “Programmatic Approaches”) are increasingly applied
- Striving for multiple benefits (“multi-focal area projects”)
- Enable supportive policies and public sector role
- Flexible financial instruments (Bundling of GEF grants, Non-Grant Instruments, Co-finance by partners)
- Private sector is an important partner in restoration efforts
- Creating local economic benefits & revenue streams (sustainable food, timber, NTFPs, PES, and ecotourism)

Future of GEF support

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- GEF is a partner in the UN Decade for Ecosystem Restoration and member of the GPFLR
- Bonn Challenge pledges are an important selection criteria for funding
- In the current GEF-7 cycle (2018 -2022) about \$350 million of GEF grants are being made available for restoration activities, based on country requests within their allocations
- The majority of remaining GEF resources in this cycle has been committed, new resources will be available in GEF-8 (2022 – 2026)
- GEF is planning to continue supporting restoration activities based on countries request and especially in support of the Bonn Challenge in GEF-8 (2022 – 2026)



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Thank you!



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