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of the United Nations

Forest landscape restoration and the Bonn Challenge in the Caucasus and Central Asia



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**WORKSHOP ON FOREST MONITORING AND RESTORATION
IN THE CAUCASUS AND CENTRAL ASIA**

9 DECEMBER 2020, ONLINE



UNECE/FAO Forestry and Timber Section

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- 56 UNECE member States
- More than 70 years of collaboration between UNECE and FAO in the field of forestry
- 4 Areas of Work
(Warsaw Integrated Programme of Work)
 - Data, monitoring, reporting and assessment
 - Policy dialogue and advice
 - Communication and outreach
 - Capacity-building



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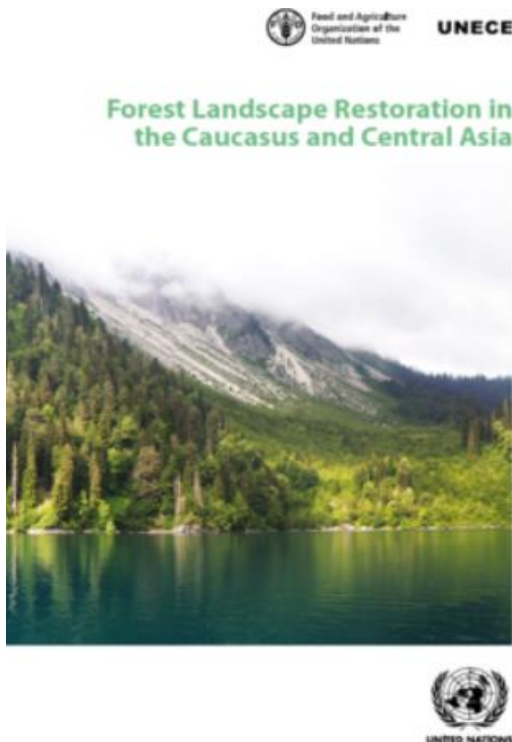
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Forest Landscape Restoration activities in the Caucasus and Central Asia

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Ministerial Roundtable on FLR and the Bonn Challenge (2018)



Bonn Challenge in the Caucasus and Central Asia

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Ministerial Roundtable on Forest Landscape Restoration in the Caucasus and Central Asia

21-22 June 2018 | Astana | Kazakhstan

ASTANA RESOLUTION

Participants in the Ministerial Roundtable on Forest Landscape Restoration and the Bonn Challenge in the Caucasus and Central Asia (Ministerial Roundtable) organized by the Government of Kazakhstan in cooperation with the United Nations Economic Commission for Europe and the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations, with the support of the International Union for Conservation of Nature and the Government of Germany,

Welcoming the ongoing efforts of national forest authorities to increase forest cover in the Caucasus and Central Asia and halt the processes of desertification and land degradation,

Aware that countries in the Caucasus and Central Asia face similar challenges and common problems related to land degradation, the planning and implementation of forest landscape restoration, and that countries have an opportunity to engage and strengthen regional cooperation, as well as to strengthen partnerships in order to identify best solutions and implement action in support of forests, their ecosystems, and people depending on them,

Recognizing the major contribution of Forest Landscape Restoration to the implementation of actions for the achievement of global commitments made by countries of the Caucasus and Central Asia within the framework of the Rio Conventions, the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and United Nations Forum on Forests (UNFF),

Noting that achieving the Bonn Challenge's 350 million-hectare restoration goal by 2030 could generate US\$ 170 billion per year globally in net benefits from watershed protection, improved crop yields and forest products, and could sequester up to 1.7 gigatonnes of carbon dioxide equivalent annually,

Emphasizing the importance of the Bonn Challenge, an international initiative intended to align quantified national commitments on forest landscape restoration,

Reaffirming our commitments to the Bonn Challenge global target to restore 150 million hectares of deforested and degraded lands by 2020 and 350 million hectares by 2030, and in accordance with national pledges from the region,

Armenia
50,000 ha

1.76%
of land

Azerbaijan
270,000 ha

3.27%
of land

Georgia
9,000 ha

0.13%
of land

Kazakhstan
1,5 millions ha

0.56%
of land

Kyrgyzstan
323,000 ha

1.68%
of land

Uzbekistan
500,000 ha

1.18%
of land

Tajikistan
66,000 ha

0.48%
of land

Turkmenistan
no pledge

Development of the regional strategy (in progress)

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PROPOSAL FOR THE
CONSIDERATION OF
MEMBER STATES

GREENING THE LANDSCAPES AND INFRASTRUCTURE OF CAUCASUS AND CENTRAL ASIA

A STRATEGY PROPOSED BY UNECE AS A
CONTRIBUTION TO THE CLIMATE ACTION SUMMIT



proposal for strategy was submitted as an acceleration action #SDGAction32697 during the Climate Action Summit in New York in September 2019

informal virtual consultation with experts of the countries facilitated by the joint UNECE/FAO Forestry and Timber Section

Sep. 2019

Nov. 2019

Aug. 2020

Nov. 2020

country experts met to work-out a country-owned regional greening strategy for the first time in the margins of the joint 77th session of the COFFI and the 40th session of the FAO EFC

presentation of the draft Strategy to the COFFI

Voluntary and non-binding.

Should be implemented in line with existing national legislations and international (ratified by individual countries) agreements.

Aims to help countries of the subregion to facilitate financing for forest landscape restoration through national and international funding.

Countries covered by the Strategy: Armenia, Azerbaijan, Georgia, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Tajikistan, Turkmenistan, Uzbekistan, but could also be applicable to other countries with similar challenges.

Follow-up in 2019: Forest Congress Caucasus and Central Asia

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30.05.2019

Regional opportunities

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Europe, Caucasus and Central Asia

- Provide coordination support to the Governing and Partnership Boards.
- Support countries with alignment of commitments with national policies, initiatives and targets under Bonn Challenge, NDCs, SDGs, LDN, CBD Aichi targets.
- Knowledge management.



Support from joint UNECE/FAO FTS can be requested in on 4 areas of work under the Warsaw Integrated Programme of Work

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- Data, monitoring, reporting and assessment
- Policy dialogue and advice
- Communication and outreach
- Capacity-building

Requests for support from UNECE in activities related to Forest Landscape Restoration can be submitted to ekrem.yazici@un.org and gianluca.sambicini@un.org



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Thank you!



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9 December 2020

Geneva

