

Building Resilience for Adaptation to Climate Change through Forest and Landscape Restoration

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Land degradation has emerged as a major threat to the development of Iran and economies worldwide. Degraded lands cannot provide the goods and services needed by people living in and around them. They could be restored into sustainable agriculture, **agroforestry**, pastoral uses, or natural and planted forest cover. **Globally some 2 billion hectares of degraded lands are in need of** restoration.



The Restoration Opportunities Assessment Methodology (ROAM), produced by IUCN and the World Resources Institute, is a flexible and affordable framework approach for countries to rapidly identify and analyze forest landscape



International commitments to land restoration have been launched through the **Bonn Challenge** and the **New York Climate Summit** on September 2014 that have declared global commitments to restore 350 million hectares of the global degraded lands. The Bonn Challenge is supported by the Global Partnership on Forest Landscape **Restoration (GPFLR)**, for whom **IUCN** acts as the secretariat. This is as a practical, actionorientated platform to facilitate the implementation of several existing international commitments on restoration, including the <u>CBD Aichi Target 15, the UNFCCC REDD+ goal, the</u>

restoration (FLR) potential and locate specific areas of opportunity at a national or sub-national level.

It can help governments and institutions:

- Estimate the costs and benefits of restoration strategies and opportunities
- Find the best, priority landscapes to start restoration \bullet
- Set the stage for national-level strategies on restoration
- Provide often-missing landscape-level data
- Build high-level support for restoration





<u>Rio+20 land degradation target and many of the SDGs.</u>



Bonn Challenge Commitments (million ha)



This approach can be described as: **Bringing people together** to identify, negotiate and implement practices that <u>restore an agreed optimal balance among the ecological</u>, social and economic benefits of forests and trees within a broader pattern of land uses.

The principles and guidelines for an adaptive landscape approach towards enhancing sustainable livelihoods and integrating environmental services are developed by GPFLR partner organizations. These principles that have been focused in this study are applicable to both developing and developed countries. These include:

- Continual Learning and Adaptive Management
- Common Concern Entry-Point



options

Validation of results

2.

3.

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This study evaluated the most effective models and participatory approaches for restoration through profitable and sustainable land management systems at scale, to develop restoration programs and landscape-level strategies in Iran. For this purpose, the objective, strategy and action plan for landscape restoration have been localized and <u>customized to the specific conditions of the country</u>, including its biophysical conditions and its stakeholders, taking into account their interests, indigenous knowledge and the decisions they make.

Some of **the expected outcomes and achievements** of this study are:

- Better information for improved land-use decision-making;
- High-level political support for FLR;
- Fundamental inputs to national strategies on FLR, REDD+, adaptation and biodiversity conservation, and for mutually reinforcing convergence between such strategies;
- A basis for better allocation of resources within restoration programs; \bullet
- Engagement of and collaboration among key policy-makers and decision makers from different sectors, as well as other stakeholders with interests in how landscapes are managed;
- and Shared understanding of FLR opportunities and the value of multifunctional

- Multiple Scale
- **Multi-Functionality**
- Multi-Stakeholder
- Negotiated and Transparent Change Logic 6.
- Clarification of Rights and Responsibilities
- Participatory and User-Friendly Monitoring 8.

Identifying potential FLR options

- 9. Resilience
- 10. Strengthened Stakeholder Capability



landscapes.



Improved Fallow Protection and Agroforestry **Erosion Control**

Relevant **indicators** include the extent of native habitat types, the Ecological Footprint and related concepts as well as trophic integrity of all relevant ecosystems. Other possible indicators could include the storage of carbon and other GHG and assessments of vulnerability and adaptive capacity. In addition to biomass indicators, it is important to consider degradation and restoration metrics and socio-economic indicators.

By implementing ROAM, decision-makers and stakeholders can expect to deliver the multiple functions and different types of outcomes that will be approached through this methodology. **Restored landscapes and seascapes can improve resilience** including adaptive capacity of ecosystems and societies, and can contribute to climate change adaptation and generate additional benefits for people, in particular indigenous and local communities and the rural poor, using a participatory approach involving all stakeholders.

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