

UNU-IAS and ITTO Policy Report

Advancing Forest Landscape Restoration in the Tropics: Experiences and Lessons for Socio-Ecological Resilience and Empowerment of Women in ITTO Projects

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Policy Report

Advancing Forest Landscape Restoration in the Tropics:

Experiences and Lessons for Socio-Ecological Resilience and Empowerment of Women in ITTO Projects

















- ITTO has been fostering FLR by supporting projects in different countries to undertake forest restoration using FLR principles.
- This report specifically analyses 14 case studies backed by ITTO to scrutinize how successful the implementation of FLR has been.
- It also delves into the socio-ecological benefits accrued from these endeavours and examines the degree to which women's priorities have been incorporated into planning and implementation.
- Offer recommendations for future research and policy actions







Methodology



- 14 case studies were assessed based on their Project Completion Reports against the six principles of FLR, and Gender mainstreaming.
- They were scored high (XXX), medium (XX), low (X) based on how they have reported the design, implementation and outcomes of their project with regards to FLR.
- Challenges to uptake identified
- Gaps and potential solutions identified





Case st	udi	es	
untry (Code for si		Focus acti	vities

Project title/ Area	Country (Code for site)	Focus activities
	Y	
Sustainable management of production forests at		Develop a software application and platform to monitor and manage sustainable forest
the commercial scale in the Brazilian Amazon	(BRA)	management through integration of data and collaboration from multiple stakeholders
Increasing commercial reforestation	Costa Rica	Community livelihood development, enhance competitiveness of commercial
competitiveness in Costa Rica	(CRA)	reforestation through effective financing system
Community based restoration and sustainable	Fiji	Tackle illegal trade in wood and non-wood products and strengthen governance
management of vulnerable forests of the Rewa	(FJI)	framework for sustainable mangrove management
Delta, Viti Levu		
Sustainable pure and mixed forest plantational	Ghana	Promote planting of mixed indigenous timber species of commercial value and support
development in the transitional zone of Ghana's	(GHA)	development of intercropping of staple food crops
Biakoye district assembly, employing poverty		
reduction strategies		
Encouraging customary landowners	Papua New Guinea	Community reforestation through customised training, awareness raising and support
in the	(PNG)	that includes forestry using well suited species and food crop production.
lowlands of Papua New Guinea's Central Province		
to reforest their		
grasslands with high value trees		
Development of a regional strategy for the	Peru	Develop Land management tool to improve environmental and socio-economic
Restoration and Rehabilitation of Degraded	(PER)	conditions through restoration of degraded lands and sustainable forest and
Areas on the south coast of Peru		agroforestry systems
Improving Forest Functions in Bengkulu	Indonesia	Implement appropriate technology for production of quality planting materials, and
Province through Community Participation in	(IND-B)	improve stakeholder involvement and community wellbeing through forest and land
Rehabilitation of Degraded Forests by Using	, in the second	rehabilitation
Local Prospective Commodities		
Initiating the conservation of Cempaka species	Indonesia	Focus on enhancing Cempaka species restoration and production through community
through plantation development with the local	IND (C)	participation
community participation in North Sulawesi	(5)	
Accelerating the Restoration of Cibodas	Indonesia	Address inadequate conservation and sustainable management of biodiversity and
Biosphere Reserve Functions through Proper	IND (CBR)	ecosystems in the Biosphere Reserve through Integrated Strategic Management plans
Management of Landscapes involving local	(321)	involving stakeholders in the landscape
stakeholders		. J
Capacity building on Forest and Land fire	Indonesia	Participatory approaches to prevent forest fires engaging multiple stakeholders
management in Indonesia	(IND-FM)	
Enhancing the implementation of landscape	Indonesia	Sustainable management and conservation of the Biosphere reserve, strengthen
management of Giam-Siak Kecil-Bukit Batu	(IND-GSK)	institutional capacity, enhance stakeholder partnerships
Biosphere Reserve (GSK-BR) in Riao Province of	(1112 3314)	
Sumatra Island, Sumatra, Indonesia		
Support for women's groups with the restoration	Togo	Food security, energy security and income generation from wood and non-wood
of forest landscapes in the Prefectures of Blitta	(TGO-BL)	products; empowering women groups
	(IGO-DL)	products, empowering women groups
and Lacs, Togo		











Challenges to be addressed to ensure uptake of FLR

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Challenges identified	BRA	CRA	FJI	GHA	IND- B	IND- C		IND- FW	IND- GSK	PER	PNG	TGO- BL	TGO- CF	MKG
Poverty		X	×	X	X	X				X	X	X	X	X
Poor enforcement			X		X				X					
Lack of capacity and awareness, information	X	X	×	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	×	X	X
Poor resources, infrastructure					X			X			X			
Disputes between stakeholders			X				X		X					X
Rural migration linked to poverty on site				X								X		





incorporation of FLK principles in the projects (assessment based on

project reports)

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Principle	BRA	CRA	FJI	GHA	IND- B	IND- C	IND- CBR	IND- FW	IND- GSK	PER	PNG	TGO- BL	TGO- CF	MKG
Focus on landscapes	×××	××	×××	×××	×	×	×××	×××	××	×××	×	×××	××	×××
Engage stakeholder and participatory governance	×××	×××	×××	×××	×××	××	×××	×××	×××	×××	××	×××	xxx	×××
Restore multiple functions for multiple benefits	××	××	×××	×××	×××	×	×××	××	××	×××	×××	×××	××	××
Maintain and enhance natural forest ecosystems within landscapes	××	××	×××	×××	×××	×	×××	×××	×××	×××	××	×××	×××	××
Tailor to the local context using variety of approaches	×××	××	×××	×××	××	×	×××	×××	×××	xxx	××	×××	×××	×××
Manage adaptively for long-term resilience	××	××	×××	×××	××	××	×××	×××	××	×××	××	××	×××	×××
Gender priorities		×	×××	××					×	×××		×××	×××	



High emphasis on collaboration between different stakeholders



- Ensuring conservation of native forest species in the Greater Mekong and Indonesia projects,
- Preventing forest fires in Indonesia-Sumatra and Kalimantan,
- Preventing the loss of important ecosystem services viz. shoreline protection in Fiji,
- Water regulation, soil fertility, and more
- Co-governance regimes being set up with other departments, and with local communities
- Alternate economic opportunities for communities
- Youth motivation activities
- In 4 cases direct/ indirect emphasis on women





Socio-ecological resilience

Socio-ecological systems recognize complex interdependencies of people and nature.



- Improving one at the cost of other is not sustainable in the long term and will ultimately have adverse consequences for both
- Therefore, need to consider the varied uses and functions of ecosystems managed by multiple users with multiple priorities.
- Given that both social and ecological systems are susceptible to vulnerabilities, establishing robust coping mechanisms is a crucial objective of landscape approaches in order to ensure socioecological resilience.
- To build resilience against socio-ecological vulnerabilities, multi-layered interventions are needed.
- Strategies range from engaging and consulting with diverse stakeholders to mapping and taking stock of resources and ecosystem integrity.
- These consultations and assessments lead to co-designed management plans that can guide land and seascape utilisation while taking into account the intricate nuances of socio-ecological contexts such as cultural norms, economic conditions, demographic factors, gender considerations and natural assets.
- These plans aim to mitigate adverse trade-offs among various types of decisions
- Are projects on track to be socio-ecologically resilient: More or less







Highlights



- Almost all projects have attempted to have a broader landscape approach in their project framing, design and implementation.
- All projects expressly state that participatory and inclusive approaches that embrace the perspectives of local communities and their wellbeing are essential to ensure the successful implementation of forest restoration
- Nearly every project aims to maintain and restore multiple ecosystem functions for multiple benefits.
- All projects aim to implement forest restoration practices.
- All projects have made the effort to tailor their interventions such that they are acceptable and adoptable to local contexts.
- Several projects actively pursued the principle of adaptive management, recognizing that contexts and preferences might change
- Factoring in community priorities to project priorities









Crucial elements for successful operationalization of FLR approaches

- Education and Awareness raising on FLR-related practices
- Community level consultations
- Consensus building among stakeholders
- Identify S-E resilience and wellbeing related issues
- Support for Alternative/ Value addition related Economic activities
- Joint monitoring and assessment teams
- Reward, Recognition and Incentive schemes
- Equity and Justice







Recommendations for Research and Policy



- Promote Transdisciplinary Research and Practice: solutionsfocused research
- Encourage Multistakeholder Discussions on Socio-Ecological Resilience
- Embed FLR Principles in All Forestry Related Policies
- Design and Implement Capacity Development Programmesacross decision chain
- Embed Equity Principles in Policy Plans and Programmessensitive to women/ youth/ other interest groups marginalized

















