



## SESSION DESCRIPTION

**ID: T13b**

Forest Landscape Restoration potential to restore Ecosystem services

**Hosts:**

	Title	Name	Organisation	E-mail
<b>Hosts:</b>		Ephrem Imanirareba	International Union for Conservation of Nature, Rwanda	<a href="mailto:Ephrem.Imanirareba@iucn.org">Ephrem.Imanirareba@iucn.org</a>
		Charles Karangwa	International Union for Conservation of Nature, Rwanda	<a href="mailto:charles.karangwa@iucn.org">charles.karangwa@iucn.org</a>

**Abstract:**

Forest landscape restoration (FLR) is the ongoing process of regaining ecological functionality and enhancing human well-being across deforested or degraded forest landscapes. FLR focus on restoring a whole landscape to meet present and future needs and to offer multiple benefits and land uses over time rather than being considered as just “planting trees”. It is a long-term process requiring multi-year version of ecological functions and benefits to human well-being to be produced. A successful FLR is a forwarding-looking and dynamic approach, focusing on strengthening the resilience of landscapes and creating future options to adjust and further optimize ecosystem goods and services as societal needs.

According to a global assessment of restoration potential, more than two billion hectares of deforested and degraded land worldwide offer opportunities for restoration. FLR can be implemented through different interventions such as: new tree plantings, managed natural regeneration, agroforestry, or improved land management to accommodate a mosaic of land uses, including agriculture, protected wildlife reserves, managed plantations, riverside plantings and more.

Restored lands support livelihoods and biodiversity by supplying clean water, reducing erosion, providing wildlife habitat, biofuel, and other forest products. Forests and trees mitigate climate change by sequestering carbon. Trees in agricultural landscapes can enhance soil fertility, conserve soil moisture, and boost food production. Restoring forests and forest landscapes is an important step in regaining the health and functionality of these ecosystem services.



IUCN has been collaborating with FLR partners to gather knowledge, develop and apply tools, and build capacity while supporting policy-makers, practitioners, researchers and landowners around the world to restore deforested and degraded lands. This session aims at sharing experience on success story of Forest landscape restoration across the world. This will enable impactful restoration in the coming decade of ecosystem restoration declared by UN general assembly as resolution [A/RES/73/284](#) on 1<sup>st</sup> March 2019.

### Goals and objectives of the session:

This session aims at sharing knowledge between researcher and key stakeholders involved in restoration, sharing success story as well as discussion on tools and methodology to assess ecosystem services from restoration;

1. By discussing methods and tools for land degradation assessment and evaluation of restoration opportunities.
2. By discussing indicator framework to monitor FLR interventions and their impacts.
3. Presenting results from different studies/learning from successful FLR projects
4. Discussion on best tools for ecosystem service assessments

### Planned output / Deliverables:

A joint discussion paper to be published in an international journal to support evidence based decision-making.

### Voluntary contributions accepted:

Yes, I allow any abstract to be submitted to my session for review

### Related to ESP Working Group/National Network:

[Thematic working group: TWG 13 – Role of ES in Ecosystem restoration](#)