
Celebrating forest and landscape restoration: Success stories and lessons from Pakistan for the Asia-Pacific region

11th June, 2021 at 14:00-1600 hours, Pakistan Time

Zoom link: <https://fao.zoom.us/j/92729362497>

Zoom Passcode: 07163497

Rationale: The UN General Assembly proclaimed 2021–2030 as the United Nations Decade on Ecosystem Restoration and its official global launch has been held in Pakistan on 05 June 2021. FAO co-leads this Decade together with UNEP¹. Forest and Landscape Restoration (FLR) is a major part of ecosystem restoration; it has gained considerable momentum in recent years in the Asia-Pacific region. This is partly due to the undesirable consequences of continued overexploitation and unsustainable management of limited forest cover in the region. Political interest and commitment in the region is, however, growing to enhance forest and tree cover and its multifarious contributions for human wellbeing, consistent with global and regional goals. Several countries in the region have been successfully demonstrating large-scale FLR efforts. Still, huge areas of landscapes remain to be restored in the region. Realising the need to move more strategically to achieve the restoration targets, SDGs and other goals, FAO-RAP released a regional strategy and action plan for FLR² in 2018. It emphasized the need to work towards a common and integrated FLR approach and put forward actions to build political support for and raise awareness on the FLR in the region. It pointed to the need of identifying and promoting the champions to inspire the regional FLR actions. It advocated building the recognition of technical options and approaches in FLR, cross-learning among countries and using every opportunity to share FLR lessons in the region. All these point to the need of celebrating successful FLR efforts and learning lessons from them for scaling up FLR in this Decade of Action to capitalize on a range of emerging opportunities towards a massive regional restoration movement. Thus, a series of events to celebrate the FLR success will be organized in this Decade. As the launch of the Restoration Decade has been held in Pakistan and the country has several examples to offer like the Billion Tree Afforestation Project, 10 Billion Tree Tsunami Programme, FAO - GEF Chilgoza Project etc. the first 'success celebrating event' is held in Pakistan.

Objective: Showcase the success stories in FLR in Pakistan and share the lessons learnt from them that are relevant for expanding FLR in the region.

Workshop outputs: Presentations of success stories and lessons learnt to be uploaded to the FAO YouTube Channel as appropriate.

¹ Strategy of the United Nations Decade on Ecosystem Restoration

² <http://www.fao.org/3/i8382en/i8382EN.pdf>

AGENDA

Facilitator: Faizul Bari

Time	Session	Activity	Time	Speakers
14:00-14:20	Opening	Welcome Remarks	10 min	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Rebekah Bell, FAO Representative, Pakistan
		Opening Remarks Key note address	10 min	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Special Assistant to the Prime Minister on Climate Change
14:20-15:00	Forest and landscape restoration: translating global vision to regional and country action	Presentations	40 min	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Dennis Garrity (Forest and landscape restoration and its relevance to Asia Pacific region) • Thomas Hofer (Regional strategy and action plan for forest and landscape restoration) • Makiko Yashiro, Regional Coordinator, UNEP (United Nations Decade on Ecosystem Restoration (2021-2030) Actions at global and regional level) • Christophe Besacier (FLRM and its regional actions including in Pakistan)
15:00-15:35	Celebrating the Restoration Decade: sharing success stories and lessons from Pakistan	Presentations	35 min	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Faizul Bari, NRM Advisor (lessons learnt in Pakistan) • PD 10 Billion Tree Project
15:35-15:50	Wrap up	Q & A	15 min	All participants
15:50-16:00		Closing Remarks	10 min	Secretary Ministry of Climate Change