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MPTF OFFICE GENERIC ANNUAL PROGRAMME¹ NARRATIVE PROGRESS REPORT REPORTING PERIOD: 1 JANUARY – 31 DECEMBER 2023

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¹ The term “programme” is used for programmes, joint programmes and projects.
² Strategic Results, as formulated in the Strategic UN Planning Framework (e.g. UNDAF) or project document;
³ The MPTF Office Project Reference Number is the same number as the one on the Notification message. It is also referred to as “Project ID” on the project’s factsheet page the [MPTF Office GATEWAY](#)
⁴ Official financial information is in the Financial Report prepared by the MPTF-Office
⁵ The MPTF or JP Contribution, refers to the amount transferred to the Participating UN Organizations, which is available on the [MPTF Office GATEWAY](#)
⁶ The start date is the date of the first transfer of the funds from the MPTF Office as Administrative Agent. Transfer date is available on the [MPTF Office GATEWAY](#)
⁷ As per approval of the original project document by the relevant decision-making body/Steering Committee.

Yes No Date: *dd.mm.yyyy*
Mid-Term Evaluation Report – *if applicable please attach*
 Yes No Date: *dd.mm.yyyy*

- Title: Coordinator, UN Decade on Ecosystem Restoration
- Participating Organization (Lead): Secretariat, UNEP
- Email address: natalia.alekseeva@un.org

Acronyms

CBD	Convention on Biological Diversity
GBF	Global Biodiversity Framework
GEF	Global Environment Facility
GGW	Great Green Wall
FERM	Framework for Ecosystem Restoration Monitoring
IUCN	International Union for Conservation of Nature
NBSAP	National Biodiversity Strategies and Action Plans
SEEA	System of Environmental Economic Accounting
SER	Society for Ecological Restoration
TF	Task Force
UNCCD	United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification
UNDESA	United Nations Department of Economic and Social Affairs
UNEA	United Nations Environment Assembly
UNEP-WCMC	United Nations Environment Programme World Conservation Monitoring Centre
UNFCCC	United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change
UNGA	United National General Assembly
WRI	World Resources Institute
MPTF	Multi-Partner Trust Fund
UNEP	United Nations Environment Programme
FAO	Food and Agriculture Organization
GGWSSI	Great Green Wall for Sahara and Sahel Initiative
CADC	Central America Dry Corridor
SIDS	Small Island Developing States
GLF	Global Landscapes Forum
UNESCO	United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization
IOC	Intergovernmental Oceanographic Commission
CI	Conservation International
SDGs	Sustainable Development Goals
CIFOR-ICRAF	Center for International Forestry Research and World Agroforestry
FRA	Forest Resources Assessment
GFOI	Global Forest Observations Initiative
AFR100	African Forest Landscape Restoration Initiative
ART/TREES	Architecture for REDD+ Transactions / The REDD+ Environmental Excellence Standard
FLRM	Forest and Landscape Restoration Mechanism
KPMG	Klynveld Peat Marwick Goerdeler
VRA	Virtual Restoration Academy
MEAs	Multilateral Environmental Agreements
SBSTTA	Subsidiary Body on Scientific, Technical and Technological Advice
APFC	Asia-Pacific Forestry Commission
UNCT	United Nations Country Team
UN Decade	United Nations Decade on Ecosystem Restoration
SLM	Sustainable Land Management
FLR	Forest and Landscape Restoration

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

In the reporting period, covering second year of implementation, key results were achieved under all 3 outcomes of the MPTF, in line with the commitments made in the 5 Year Programme Document.

Outcome 1 continued to successfully elevate the UN Decade on Ecosystem Restoration (UN Decade) through communication, advocacy and building a global movement. After the first ten World Restoration Flagships had been announced within CBD COP15 in Montreal and through a global media campaign, the Outcome's work shifted to a months-long campaign of strategically sequenced and released mini-documentaries, feature stories, social media posts and funder involvement. Over 4 billion newspaper readers and close to 20 million viewers could be reached through these efforts. The UN Climate Week in New York in September, as well as UNFCCC COP28 in Dubai, were strategically leveraged to drive attention, policy, and investment interest towards World Restoration Flagships. In parallel, the full suite of communication products was developed for the seven new World Restoration Flagships which were selected based on the first submission process. Further highlights included new records in online reach, new publications, Learning Sessions and events, three new Generation Restoration murals, the launch of the UN Decade Freshwater Challenge under the Action Plan, and now 250+ partners actively working towards the goals of the UN Decade.

Outcome 2 work was focused on knowledge dissemination and capacity development products elaborated by the Task Force on Best Practices (Output 2.3), the refinement of the documents for the Central America Dry Corridor (CADC), Small Island Developing States (SIDS) and Great Green Wall for Sahara and Sahel Initiative (GGWSSI) Flagship Initiatives based on feedback received from the Executive Board (Output 2.8 Design of Flagship Initiatives) and the initial steps for the preparation of their annual work plans, as well as the assessment of pre-selected flagships proposed in 2022 to receive MPTF targeted support and the preparation of the new flagship call to be launched in 2024 (Deliverable 2.8.4. Identification / design of potential additional Flagship Initiatives). Both FAO and UNEP have devoted a large amount of time and effort to finalize the design of the 3 full flagship initiatives identified in the 5-year programme document. Those 3 full flagships have been approved by the Executive Board of the MPTF and are currently undergoing their start-up phase: 1) the CADC flagship (preparation led by FAO); 2) the GGW flagship (preparation led by FAO); 3) the SIDS flagship (preparation led by UNEP).

Towards outcome 3, the Task Force on Monitoring, led by FAO, has been requested by CBD to lead the reporting and guidance for Target 2 indicator, area under restoration, of the Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework. Target 2 provides a quantitative target for the work under Outcome 3 and provides a concrete implementation mechanism for supporting the reporting and monitoring of ecosystem restoration. FAO is working collaboratively and closely with the Rio Conventions (CBD, UNCCD, and UNFCCC), other MEAs and key organizations (UNEP, UNDP, UNEP-WCMC, Ramsar Convention, IUCN, WRI, SEEA, SER, CIFOR-ICRAF, WWF and ICRI) to shape consistent and relevant guidance on Target 2. The direct beneficiaries of the work on Target 2 are the CBD Parties (196 countries) and indirectly, the broader communities that will benefit from consistent guidance and data on global ecosystem restoration.

I. Purpose

In line with the 5-Year Programme Document the three main goals at the core of the strategy of the UN Decade are: 1. enhancing global, regional, national and local commitments and actions to prevent, halt and reverse the degradation of ecosystems; 2. increasing our understanding of the multiple benefits of successful

ecosystem restoration; 3. applying this knowledge in our education systems and within all public and private sector decision-making.

Activities are being implemented within and across these three outcomes: Outcome 1: A global movement on ecosystem restoration established that catalyses restoration initiatives, political will, exchange of knowledge, and cross-sectoral collaboration – with a focus on support for and within flagship countries and regions; Outcome 2: Increased capacity and capability in private, public sector and civil society for policy reform, to catalyse investments and to access resources are resulting in restoration actions on the ground and implementation within Flagship Initiatives. Outcome 3: Results documented and shared, through monitoring and reporting of biophysical and socio-economic elements of sustainable ecosystem restoration and influencing activities for ecosystem restoration.

The UN Decade MPTF so far includes 3 full Flagship Initiatives, which feature prominently in the 5-year Project Document (Pro Doc). The 3 full Flagships are currently all approved by the EB and include: 1) the CADC flagship (preparation led by FAO); 2) the GGW flagship (preparation led by FAO); 3) the SIDS flagship (preparation led by UNEP). There is also a set of “Targeted Support” World Restoration Flagships, for which the fund foresees two calls for proposals. While the first call has been completed, the second call will be opened in February 2024.

II. Results

i) Narrative reporting on results:

For the reporting period, all results set out in the work plan and budget approved by the first, second and third Executive Board meetings (and inter-sessional exchange) could be achieved. What is more, envisioned key performance indicators were either fully achieved – or, in most cases, surpassed.

Below is a brief description of the Outputs and Outcomes that were due to be achieved during the reporting period, in accordance with the workplan, as well as remarks on adjustments to the workplan, if any.

Outcome 1: A global movement on ecosystem restoration established that catalyzes restoration initiatives, political will, exchange of knowledge, and cross-sectoral collaboration – with a focus on support for and within flagship countries and regions.

Output 1.1: Mobilization: *Selected public, private and civil society stakeholder groups are supported in their mobilization efforts through increased incentives, capacity and collective action for promotion and restoration of ecosystems.*

1.1.2 Communication assets developed for selected flagship countries

After the successful launch of the first ten World Restoration Flagships alongside CBD COP15 in Montreal, a full suite of communication products was developed, including in regional and national languages as relevant to the selected Flagships. These flagship assets can be found online [here](#) for full Flagship profiles, here for [social media assets](#) and here for the [mini-documentary series](#).

Assets include:

- Animated and static social media cards for each of the first ten Flagships
- One mini-documentary per flagship (7-10 minutes)
- One Press Release per Flagship
- One Feature story published & shared through UNEP, FAO and UN channels per Flagship

In total, the first ten World Restoration Flagships cover **32 countries**. Assets are available in the following languages: English, Arabic, Spanish, French, Portuguese, Russian, Chinese, Kiswahili.

The UN Decade Communication team worked with UNEP Regional Offices as well as FAO Country Offices on distributing news about the Flagships within countries. The global UN platforms also picked up and shared the winning World Restoration Flagships.

Building on the highly successful campaign launch around World Restoration Flagships, the UN Decade Team engaged further with funders voicing interest in the first ten World Restoration Flagships, and with insights from the World Economic Forum produced tailored investors briefs. During New York Climate Week in September 2023, Salesforce pledged USD 8 million in new funding for priority nature and climate initiatives, with action in the Atlantic Forest World Restoration Flagship featuring prominently. During the UNFCCC COP28 in the United Arab Emirates, UN Decade Advisory Board members from Salesforce and KPMG, together with the UN Decade team, co-hosted a packed exchange workshop for World Restoration Flagships and interested funders.

1.1.4 UN Decade Flagship Announcement - global campaign

The global campaign for the first ten UN World Restoration Flagships concluded in 2023, with all assets – including the mini-documentary film series and a [gamification](#) – being rolled out within the year. As described during the last report to the MPTF, the UN Decade team opted for a serial approach rather than releasing all assets at once. For the mini-documentaries, for example, this meant structuring the videos in the format of a film series, with episodes being released weekly. As the numbers show this strategy allowed for ample time to celebrate and share each Flagship widely, resulting in maximum views and engagement.

Highlights from the global campaign around the first ten World Restoration Flagships include:

- Over **36 million impressions** on UNEP social media, 34+ million reach on partners' channels.
- Over **4 billion readers** reached through 1,500+ media articles in 935 outlets, 60+ countries, and 16 languages; incl. Reuters and regional leaders.
- Close to **2 million viewers** of the Virtual Gala, 70,000 full hours watched.
- **19 million viewers** of documentary series.
- Packed **Restoration Day** at CBD COP15.
- Around **100,000 people playing gamification** of restoration efforts on the UN Decade website.
- **Funding interest** upon launch from Bezos Earth Fund, Ecological Restoration Fund, Earth Percent, Salesforce.
- **Country interest** to step up efforts, showcase successes.

Throughout the year, the UN Decade team sought additional opportunities to highlight the first ten UN World Restoration Flagships. This included, for example, a submission of the documentary series to the world's biggest Science Film Festival, where the films were awarded with the [jury prize](#). The Science Film Festival is a global event, which ran at locations in 15+ countries across Latin America, Africa and Asia.

At UNFCCC COP28 in Dubai, events were held by FAO, within the UNEP Pavilion, and most notably as Host Country Restoration Day putting additional spotlight on the winning 10 initiatives.

In parallel to celebrating the first ten World Restoration Flagships, advised by the Executive Board and based on high donor interest in additional support to Flagships, new winners were selected from the first submission cohort. All followed due process under leadership of Outcome 2 (see below).

With seven more years left under the UN Decade on Ecosystem Restoration, [seven new World Restoration Flagships](#) were selected, and communication products prepared:

- **Terai Arc Landscape** – original filming & photography in Nepal
- **Restoring Mediterranean Forests** – original filming & photography in Lebanon
- **Regreening Africa** – original filming & photography in Ethiopia
- **Mangrove Regeneration in Sri Lanka** – original filming & photography in Sri Lanka
- **African Farmers Transforming Food Systems** – original filming & photography in Senegal
- **Accion Andina** – original filming & photography in Ecuador
- **Living Indus** – original filming & photography in Pakistan only in 2024, due to weather conditions

All press and social media materials for the seven new World Restoration Flagships were also prepared in 2023, but release is scheduled to February 2024 to leverage international attention on the sixth UN Environment Assembly (UNEA-6) and the opportunity to host in-person networking, technical and celebration events in Kenya. Campaign reach for the new seven World Restoration Flagships will therefore be detailed in the 2024 MPTF report.

1.1.5 UN Decade Flagship Announcement – national / regional campaigns

Global Flagship Outreach was accompanied by national and regional campaigns supported through World Restoration Flagship teams themselves, as well as local UNEP and FAO offices, and through some of the UN Decade’s 250+ partners. The media campaign for the first ten World Restoration Flagships reached over 60 countries, and articles appeared in 16 languages. Among the 935 outlets that covered the first ten Flagships were many leading national and regional papers such as the Hindustan Times (India), The Astana Times (Kazakhstan) or CGTN (China). Around 70% of news coverage came from non-English outlets, leading among them China and Brazil. Both countries are part of winning Flagship initiatives. A full media report with all details and links to all 1,500+ stories is available upon request.

Output 1.2: Science Communication and Advocacy: *Best practices for on-the-ground restoration of ecosystems collected and showcased globally, to shift perceptions and increase uptake by, support to restoration initiatives*

1.2.5 Digital content creation and outreach

In 2023, digital content creation and outreach around the UN Decade on Ecosystem Restoration – aside from the World Restoration Flagship Campaign – reached new heights.

In summary, the UN Decade’s website and digital hub registered:

- 50 events on the UN Decade from 28 partners
- 39 webstories from 23 partners
- 13 new publications from 10 partners
- Learning sessions:
 - 4 sessions
 - 10 partners hosting the sessions
 - 3185 registered participants
- Newsletters: 16
 - 12 monthly newsletters + 4 special editions
 - Going to a least of 27,000+ subscribers
- Total website views for the year: 714,553

Further campaign highlights included new Generation Restoration murals in New York, Detroit, and Houston with a focus on “tree equity” in US cities; a terrific launch of the UN Decade Freshwater Challenge – the first international restoration drive for freshwater ecosystems; the Science Film Festival on ecosystem restoration

running in 15+ countries reaching 850,000+ in person viewers; and the collaboration with UNESCO and the Mangrove Action Project around the Mangrove Photography Awards 2023. It is important to highlight that all these initiatives – reaching millions of people with relevant restoration messages – came at no extra cost to the UN Decade MPTF other than communication staff time. Throughout 2023, the UN Decade again leveraged the power of partnerships.

Output 1.3: Youth engagement programmes for the Decade launched and managed to mobilize support, build momentum and facilitate the global restoration movement

1.3.1 Generation Restoration University Network

A [university network](#) in support of the goals of the UN Decade on Ecosystem Restoration has been launched by Oxford University and UNEP, together with the UN Decade team. The call to action focuses on achieving “nature positivity” on campus, which includes direct restoration actions, mainstreaming ecosystem restoration in research and teaching, as well as improving ecosystem impacts of cafeterias and investments. To date, 670 universities from 108 countries and 857 student ambassadors have joined the network.

[Case studies](#) and success stories include the University of Buenos Aires’ work to teach about the importance of campus plants for animal diversity, leadership on the protection of bats by the University of Bejaia in Algeria or a biodiverse campus forest at the Government Dungar College in India.

Output 1.4: UN Decade Partnership and Action Plan

In 2023, our [partnership network](#) increased in growth, expanding from 200 to over 250 partners. This increase has enabled us to broaden our reach and enhance our collaborative efforts across various sectors and regions.

In March 2023, the UN Decade achieved a major milestone with the approval and publication of its [Action Plan](#), which introduced 30 global and regional challenges across 12 thematic areas. This comprehensive strategy aims to tackle critical issues from different angles, ensuring a multi-dimensional approach to our goals. The challenges were initially launched softly at the GLF Climate in November 2022, focusing on areas such as Faith, Indigenous Peoples, and Finance, followed by a full launch of the Freshwater challenge at the UN Water event in April 2023. The latter was spearheaded by major environmental organizations including WWF, IUCN, the Ramsar Convention, CI, UNEP, and FAO, in collaboration with the governments of Colombia, DRC, Ecuador, Kazakhstan, Gabon, Mexico, and The Netherlands. In April 2023, following the official approval of the Action Plan by the UN Decade Strategy group, teams had embarked on launching these challenges. This marked a pivotal moment in our journey, setting the stage for a transformative decade of ecosystem restoration and stakeholder collaboration. All [UN Decade Task Forces](#), along with an [Advisory Board](#), are actively engaged in this extensive program.

[A booklet detailing the Action Plan](#) was released in May 2023, to further disseminate Decade’s initiatives and strategies. Throughout the year, over 35 UN Decade partners have co-led thematic challenges, kick-starting a series of actions and initiatives that are set to unfold over the next seven years. These efforts are directly contributing to 40 global goals and targets, encompassing the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), the Global Biodiversity Framework (GBF), and others.

The UN Decade Secretariat team is playing a crucial role in strategically communicating each challenge, in collaboration with challenge leads, to effectively manage their respective timelines and milestones. The Freshwater Challenge, for example, due to its ambitious scale—equivalent to restoring rivers that would stretch seven times around the Earth and wetlands larger than the size of India—garnered significant media attention. Within the first week of its launch (23-30 March 2023), the challenge was featured in 151 articles across 132 media outlets in 46 countries, reaching over 70 million people. Prominent coverage by media

outlets such as Le Figaro, Voice of America, Deutsche Welle, and New Scientist highlighted the global impact and relevance of our initiatives.

To ensure the strategies remain effective and responsive to emerging challenges, a comprehensive review of the Action Plan will be conducted in 2024-2025. This process will enable the Decade to refine approaches and intensify efforts towards reaching relevant targets and ensuring scaled up global restoration.

OUTCOME 2. Increased capacity and capability in private, public sector and civil society for policy reform, to catalyse investments and to access resources are resulting in restoration actions on the ground and implementation within Flagship Initiatives.

Outcome 2 was focused on knowledge dissemination and capacity development products elaborated by the Task Force on Best Practices (Output 2.3), the refinement of the documents on the CADC, SIDS and GGWSSI Flagship Initiatives based on feedback received from the Executive Board (Output 2.8 Design of Flagship Initiatives) and the initial steps for the preparation of their annual work plans, as well as the assessment of pre-selected flagships proposed in 2022 to receive MPTF targeted support and the preparation of the new flagship call to be launched in 2024 (Deliverable 2.8.4. Identification / design of potential additional Flagship Initiatives).

Output 2.3:

Methods and knowledge for designing, implementing, sustaining and scaling up ecosystem restoration initiatives developed, disseminated and applied within specific Flagship Initiatives

The FAO-led Task Force on Best Practices is a growing collaborative effort of 400 members from 170 global leading organizations focused on capacity development and knowledge dissemination efforts to help achieve the Decade's mission. During the reporting period, the main activities developed by the Task Force are summarized as follows:

- Finalization and publication of the [*Standards of practice to guide ecosystem restoration*](#): The *Standards of practice* provide over 300 recommendations to assist restoration practitioners with application of the [UN Decade principles](#) when conducting restoration projects, to maximize their benefits for nature and people. From February to June 2023, the beta version of the document was subject to a targeted consultation with Indigenous Peoples, facilitated by the Indigenous Peoples Unit of FAO. Under this consultation, a drafting committee was established with eight members of the Global-Hub on Indigenous Peoples' Food Systems. Their substantial inputs were integrated into the final version to include recommendations that need to be considered when restoration efforts involve or affect Indigenous Peoples and their territories. The *Standards of practice* were then launched during a session held at the 10th World Conference on Ecosystem Restoration in Darwin, Australia in September 2023. To facilitate their adoption, a decision-making tool and an e-learning course will be developed in 2024.

- Publication of the [Capacity, Knowledge and Learning Action Plan for the Decade \(CKLAP\)](#): The CKLAP was published online in 2023, proposing eight capacity development initiatives tailored to different stakeholder groups. Out of them, five initiatives will start being implemented in 2024: Initiative 1 - Professional Platform for Education and Learning; Initiative 3 - Community-based ecosystem restoration mechanism; Initiative 4 - Indigenous Peoples' Restoration Approaches initiative; Initiative 5 - Exploring pluralistic extension advisory services; and Initiative 6 - Restoration policy facility. To that end, a two-year work plan was prepared and shared for feedback of the Task Force, and subgroups of members interested in closely supporting implementation of each of the initiatives were created to facilitate creation of partnerships and collective efforts. In addition, the Task Force participated in two workshops organized by the G20 Global

Land Initiative of UNCCD which were held in Cologne, Germany (June) and Yogyakarta, Indonesia (November) to develop an elective course focused on restoration of agricultural lands to be integrated into agricultural bachelor and master programmes around the world.

- Full operationalization of the **Framework for dissemination of good practices for restoration**: two functionalities to document and disseminate good practices for restoration have been integrated into the [Framework for Ecosystem Restoration Monitoring \(FERM\)](#) platform and are currently fully operational. This includes an online form for documentation of good practices from initiatives previously registered in the FERM Registry, as well as a [common search engine](#) that links more than 1500 good practices from Panorama Solutions, WOCAT, GoProFor and FERM. The good practices framework was presented and launched during an [UN decade learning session](#) organized on 22 June 2023. A review panel of 70 reviewers has been consolidated to provide quality control to the practices directly documented through FERM, using the UN Decade principles as the basis for assessment criteria.

- Participation in the following events to disseminate the above products and promote collaboration with the Task Force activities: the 20x20 annual meeting held in San Pedro, Belize, 7-9 February; the V Colombian Congress and VI Ibero-American and Caribbean Congress on Ecological Restoration in Bogota, Colombia from 12-16 June; the 10th World Conference on Ecosystem Restoration in Darwin, Australia from 26-30 September; the 30th Session of the Asia-Pacific Forestry Commission (APFC) in Sydney, Australia from 2-6 October; the 28th United Nations Climate Change Conference in Dubai, UAE from 30 November – 13 December; and the International Mountain day organized on 13 December.

Output 2.8 Design of Flagship Initiatives

The documents for the three flagships pre-selected for receiving full MPTF support (Central American Dry Corridor (CADC), the Great Green Wall (GGW), and the Small Island Developing States (SIDS)), and that were part of the ten flagships announced at CBD COP 15, were finalized and submitted to the Executive Board. Feedback received from the Executive Board was integrated into the documents. The 3 full Flagships have been approved by the EB in the last quarter of 2023. In 2024, the flagships will be officially launched, and preparation of their annual work plan will be finalized to start being implemented.

Likewise, the assessment process of the ten flagships proposed to receive MPTF targeted support was conducted. From the group of ten, seven flagships will be announced during UNEA-6 in 2024 and the remaining three were already announced in 2022.

In addition, the process to prepare the second call for flagships, to be launched in 2024, was initiated by updating the submission form, simplifying the process and receiving the feedback from the UN Decade Strategy Group.

2.8.1 Design of the Central America Dry Corridor (CADC) Flagship Initiative

In 2022, the design phase of the CADC Flagship Initiative was carried out in partnership with SICA and several national partners in Costa Rica, Honduras, El Salvador, Nicaragua, Guatemala, Panama & Dominican Republic. With the guidance of the budget holder unit in FAO HQ and under the leadership of the FAO Sub-Regional Office in Central America, the full proposal was elaborated based on several in-country and regional consultations with UNEP, IUCN, CIFOR/GLF, SICA, national institutions etc., feasibility studies & assessments (done by an international Flagship designer), capacity need assessments (international consultant), institutional assessments and partners identification both at national and regional levels. The Executive Director of SICA participated in a session on the UN Decade during the World Forestry Congress in early May 2022. During this session he confirmed the strong interest/ownership of the SICA region for ecosystem restoration and this CADC Flagship initiative. The full proposal was drafted with the support of

several consultants (international / national), and then finalized based on broader consultations with local stakeholders both at national level and within the multiple targeted landscapes.

In 2023, after submitting the full proposal, the document has been subject to an ongoing process of amendments based on feedback received from the MPTF Executive Board. In addition, a meeting with SICA, UNEP and IUCN, was organized to start the development of the annual work plan, including a stakeholder and project mapping exercise as a tool to refine the work plan in 2024.

2.8.2 Design of the Small Islands Developing States (SIDS) Flagship Initiative

The SIDS Restoration Flagship aims to strengthen the capacity of SIDS countries in utilizing marine and coastal ecosystem restoration and conservation instruments for economic recovery and environmentally sustainable development through a connected “ridge to reef and seascapes’ approach. The Flagship is strengthening the economy-environment nexus in policy making, financing, and management of ocean and coastal ecosystems, which are needed to transition towards a sustainable blue economy. A SIDS Restoration Flagship short introductory movie is [available here](#).

The full proposal was prepared under leadership of UNEP, in close collaboration with DESA and FAO, based on several in-country consultations with relevant government agencies and national/local stakeholders, regional consultations (online), preparatory/feasibility studies and assessments, capacity need assessments, and site visits and interviews organized by UNEP, DESA and FAO experts and international consultants (July-September 2022 in Comoros Islands & Saint Lucia). Due to logistical difficulties with traveling to Vanuatu, a national consultant was recruited in May 2022 to provide data/information to the international flagship designer team, working in collaboration with national FAO project team and government.

Full flagship proposal was submitted to MPTF in April 2023, and principally approved in August 2023 with a set of recommendations to streamline the comprehensive work plan around fewer, consolidated actions per target country. The UNEP-DESA-FAO project team has revised the project document, including Logframe, results framework and related country annexes.

Collaboration is initiated between the SIDS Flagship and [SIDS Coalition for Nature](#) to support capacity building and SIDS-to-SIDS learning (announced at the “[World Leaders Event for Nature and People](#)” during NYC High-Level Week, 19 Sept 2023, New York). Development of a global knowledge framework and partnership on marine and coastal conservation and restoration is initiated with Intergovernmental Oceanographic Commission of UNESCO (IOC/UNESCO).

2.8.3 Design of the Great Green Wall for Sahara and Sahel Initiative (GGWSSI) Flagship Initiative

The inception phase for the GGW Flagship Initiative was initiated with the preparation of a detailed concept note shared with the Executive Board (EB) in early June 2022. The GGW Flagship concept note was prepared with the leadership of the FAO LTO in HQ and the guidance of the budget holder unit in FAO HQ, and with the support of an international consultant facilitating multiple consultations within a core group of partners including several FAO teams, UNEP FI, GGW Accelerator (led by UNCCD), CIFOR/GLF, Pan-African Agency of the Great Green Wall Initiative and “l’Agence Nationale de la Grande Muraille Verte du Niger” (ANGMV Niger) and “la Coordination Nationale de l’Initiative Grande Muraille Verte pour le Sahara et le Sahel du Burkina Faso” (CN-IGMVSS). The GGW Flagship concept note was based on several in-country capacity need assessments and visits / interviews that were organized on the occasion of Duty Travels of FAO experts and international consultant (June 2022 in Burkina Faso and September 2022 in Niger).

The purpose of this Flagship is to support restoration and livelihoods protection in areas of the Great Green Wall where environmental degradation and acute food insecurity are interlinked dynamics caused and exacerbated by the ongoing insecurity crisis in the Central Sahel. The proposed focus target zone, a transboundary landscape between Burkina Faso and Niger, is both a degradation hotspot and a conflict zone. This flagship comes in support of the Pan-Africa Agency Priority Investment Plan for 2021-2030 and the GGW Accelerator, in particular its pillar 4 “Favorable economic and institutional framework for effective governance, sustainability, stability and security” taking advantage of the MPTF partner’s expertise and tools. The overall objective of the GGW Flagship is to promote the mobilization of local authorities and communities in Burkina Faso and Niger transboundary areas affected by conflicts, as the most sustainable way to restore land, strengthen resilience and build social cohesion reducing conflicts linked to unequal access to natural resources. The total budget of this Flagship Initiative is 4,977,105 USD. The full proposal was prepared and submitted in February 2023 for final clearance of the Executive Board.

The final version of the flagship was presented to national partners in Ouagadougou, Burkina Faso in June 2023 during the final workshop of the FFEM-funded project: « Restauration des Forêts et des Paysages et Gestion Durable des Terres au Sahel (RFP/GDD). The particularity of this project lies in the approach, based on supporting municipalities in project management and monitoring-evaluation of Sustainable Land Management/ Forest and Landscape Restoration (SLM/FLR) and Income-Generating Activities (IGA) actions in the spirit of decentralization, also implemented in Niger and Burkina Faso.

The 2nd semester of 2023 was used to fine-tune the project document, answer to the MPTF board comments and prepare the launch event of the flagship activities, scheduled for February 2024 in Burkina Faso. Once approved in November 2023, the last month of the year was used to hire national coordinators and project assistant both in Niger and Burkina Faso. End of 2023, the project management teams in Burkina Faso and in Niger were in place and ready to start implementation early 2024.

2.8.4 Identification/design of potential additional Flagships initiatives

During the reporting period, the assessment and approval process of the ten flagships proposed for MPTF targeted support to the Executive Board was conducted. This involved requesting the flagships to fill out a second application form to identify the needs and activities for which the targeted support will be used. Seven of them will be announced during UNEA-6 in 2024 (Terai Arc Landscape, Restoring Mediterranean Forests, Regreening Africa, Mangrove Regeneration in Sri Lanka, Living Indus, African Farmers Transforming Food Systems and Accion Andina) and the remaining three already announced in 2022 at COP15 (Building with Nature in Indonesia, Namami Gange and Multi-Country Mountain Flagship). The ten flagships proposed for MPTF targeted support were extracted from the 23 short-listed flagships from the first call, selecting those flagships that include Least Developed Countries, Low Income Countries and Lower Middle-Income Countries according to DAC List of ODA Recipients.

In addition, the process to prepare the second call for flagships, to be launched in 2024, was initiated by updating the submission form integrating lessons learned from the first call such as including tailored questions to assess compliance with the UN Decade principles. The submission form was then sent for feedback of the UN Decade Strategy Group.

OUTCOME 3 - Results documented and shared, through monitoring and reporting of biophysical and socio-economic elements of sustainable ecosystem restoration and influencing activities for ecosystem restoration

Towards outcome 3, the Task Force on Monitoring, led by FAO, has been requested by CBD to lead the reporting and guidance for Target 2 indicator, area under restoration, of the Kunming-Montreal Global

Biodiversity Framework. Target 2 provides a quantitative target for the work under Outcome 3 and provides a concrete implementation mechanism for supporting the reporting and monitoring of ecosystem restoration. FAO is working collaboratively and closely with the Rio Conventions (CBD, UNCCD, and UNFCCC), other MEAs and key organizations (UNEP, UNDP, UNEP-WCMC, Ramsar Convention, IUCN, WRI, SEEA, SER, CIFOR-ICRAF, WWF and ICRI) to shape consistent and relevant guidance on Target 2. The direct beneficiaries of the work on Target 2 are the CBD Parties (196 countries) and indirectly, the broader communities that will benefit from consistent guidance and data on global ecosystem restoration.

Output 3.1: Monitoring and reporting framework established, strengthened and made available for monitoring restoration – supported by a geospatial dissemination platform, capacity development, science, technology and innovation

The FERM platform and registry, launched in 2022, have been continuously updated in collaboration with the Monitoring Task Force to align to the Target 2 indicator methodology. In 2023, a common search engine for consulting good restoration practices was launched (in collaboration with Outcome 2), integrating more than 1500 good practices from different platforms. The FERM registry was made available to a broad audience and by the end of 2023 receive close to 400 registered users (Indicator 3.1.1). During the Roadmap for Target 2 workshop in November 2023, the FERM Registry was tested by more than 100 participants and feedback was recorded and subsequently included in the development plan of the platform (Indicator 3.1.3). Geospatial data, particularly of the FAO GEF Portfolio were ingested into the FERM registry. Trainings were organized for the GEF project managers, providing introductory capacity development on the functionality of the registry (Indicator 3.1.2). The e-learning course was conceptualized and further progress will be reported in 2024 (Indicator 3.1.4). In 2023, the FERM geospatial platform was updated to use an API to access the headline indicator data for global level monitoring (Indicator 3.1.5), featuring the UN Decade dashboard functionality. The dashboard will be developed in 2024 to align to the timeline of KM-GBF Target 2 reporting (Indicator 3.1.6).

Output 3.2: A global community for restoration monitoring leveraged to enable knowledge exchange and methodological development to overcome ecosystem specific data, monitoring and reporting challenges.

The Task Force on Monitoring has continued to grow in membership in 2023 with 71 new members and a total of 407 members. Four task force meetings were conveyed in 2023, providing the opportunity for members to learn about FERM development and guidance for reporting and monitoring on the Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework (KM-GBF) Target 2, as well as to share knowledge among members of the Task Force (Indicator 3.2.1).

Notably, the 9th meeting was conveyed during the Global Forest Observations Initiative (GFOI) 2023 Plenary at FAO headquarters in Rome and online, providing GFOI audience opportunities to learn about the UN Decade and the KM-GBF. About 300 experts attended in person and over 1,000 followed the session virtually. In November 2023, the Target 2 working group, created in 2022, was transformed into a partnership and announced at a workshop focused on developing a roadmap for supporting ecosystem restoration under the KM-GBF at FAO headquarters in Rome. Over the course of three days, more than 100 participants came together to engage in discussions covering a wide range of topics, including progress and alignment between the UN Decade on Ecosystem Restoration and the KM-GBF adopted under the CBD, unpacking Target 2 of the Framework, transparent monitoring, large-scale restoration commitments, stakeholder inclusion, capacity needs, and financing (Indicator 3.2.1).

Additionally, participation and presentations in relevant workshops in 2023 included the AFR100, Initiative 20x20, Finance Task Force, Best Practice Task Force, GGW Data Task Force and Land and Carbon Lab conference.

Output 3.3: Annual reports on the progress of ecosystem restoration using biophysical and socio-economic indicators, best-available data, inclusive of global flows of private and public financial investment towards ecosystem restoration produced and made available.

Headline indicators for global level monitoring through annual reports were launched in 2022. In 2023, annual report on global restoration progress draft outline was developed (Indicator 3.3.1). Metadata for monitoring CBD's KM-GBF Target 2, area under restoration, was updated in June 2023 with inputs from the Target 2 Working Group (Indicator 3.3.2). Development in the FERM registry was aligned to the metadata to facilitate ongoing data compilation and support reporting for Target 2. A mockup version of dashboard was created and consulted internally. The dashboard will be developed in 2024 and 2025 (Indicator 3.3.3).

Output 3.4: Monitoring case studies and knowledge products developed and made available on the monitoring of key local ecosystems where data gaps, normative data collection and restoration indicators require further research and development.

In 2023, pilot countries have been identified and in partnership with CIFOR-ICRAF a plan has been developed to produce knowledge products on the monitoring of key local ecosystems where data gaps, normative data collection and restoration indicators require further research and development. Pilot country work will begin in 2024 and will be further reported (Indicator 3.4.1).

In addition, to support countries in using the spatially explicit decision support tool for planning tree and forest restoration called *se.plan*, included trainings that were delivered to Fiji, Viet Nam and to 10 countries participating in the regional FLRM Mediterranean workshop (Indicator 3.4.3). A website dedicated to *se.plan* was launched, with a storymap and a video featuring the case of Viet Nam.

Output 3.5: Monitoring support (capacity development / technology transfer) provided to on-the-ground UN Decade Flagships.

The UN Decade Global Flagships were announced at CBD COP15 in December 2022. In 2023, trainings were given to the focal points on how to upload geospatial data in the FERM registry, and how to document good restoration practices. These flagship initiatives were spotlighted in the FERM geospatial platform and the home page. Further support will be provided in 2024 (Indicators 3.5.1, 3.5.3 and 3.5.5).

ii) Indicator Based Performance Assessment:

Using the **Programme Results Framework from the Project Document / AWP** - provide an update on the achievement of indicators at both the output and outcome level in the table below. Where it has not been possible to collect data on indicators, clear explanation should be given explaining why, as well as plans on how and when this data will be collected.

OUTCOME 1:

	<u>Achieved</u> Indicator Targets	Reasons for Variance with Planned Target (if any)	Source of Verification
<p>1.1.2. Communication assets developed for selected flagship countries</p> <p>Indicator 1.1.2 Baseline: 10 Planned Target: 10 Achieved Target: 17</p>	<p>Due to the overwhelming success of the launch of the first ten World Restoration Flagships, the Executive Board decided on a launch of additional 7 Flagships selected from the 2022 call, with 10-13 more being planned to be selected from a new call.</p> <p>In total, 17 Flagship communication packages in 7 languages (as relevant per flagship) have been produced.</p>	<p>The planned target has been surpassed with existing funding due to the request for additional flagships.</p> <p>Through working effectively and efficiently, the UN Decade Communication team produced high-quality multilingual campaign assets without additional resources needed.</p> <p>For the 10-13 upcoming flagships, the MPTF top-up provided by Germany can hopefully support the additional communication products.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Flagship online profiles linking to multilingual assets • Mini-documentary series with subtitles in up to 7 languages • Multilingual social media assets
<p>1.1.4. UN Decade Flagship Announcement - global campaign</p> <p>Indicator 1.1.4 Baseline: 0 Planned Target: 20 million people reach Achieved Target: 4+ billion people reach</p>	<p>10 communication packages for the first ten World Restoration Flagships have been prepared and released within the reporting period, with the additional 7 packages planned for release in 2024.</p> <p>Additional assets – such as the digital interactive map – could be produced thanks to the dedication of the team.</p> <p>Static and animated social media assets: over 36 million impressions on UNEP’s channels, and a reach of 34 million through partner’s channels - Global, regional and national press kits: over 4 billion readers reached through 1,500+ media articles in 935</p>	<p>The target has been overachieved, as additional, unplanned communication resources could be produced, thanks to the dedication of all teams involved.</p> <p>A collaboration with the world’s largest Science Film Festival allowed for additional in-person screenings of the documentary series in 15 countries, attended by 800,000+ visitors</p> <p>While communication assets have been produced in time, release plans were adjusted to allow for wider audience reach through a serialized approach, which meant for example that the full</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Social media data tracking (internal systems) • Media reach tracking (through Meltwater) • Google Analytics • YouTube and Weibo data • Science Film Festival official report

	<p>outlets, 60+ countries and 16 languages</p> <p>- Documentary series of 10 episodes: Over 19 million viewers online and screenings at the world’s biggest science film festival, where it won the Jury Prize</p> <p>- Digital interactive map: over 150,000 users</p>	documentary series was released within the 2023 reporting period.	
<p>1.1.4. UN Decade Flagship Announcement – national / regional campaigns</p> <p>Indicator 1.1.5 Baseline: 0 Planned Target: 50 million people national media reach Achieved Target: ~2.8 billion people national media reach</p>	<p>As a proxy, we saw around 70% non-English media pick up stories around the Flagships, with especially wide reach in the Flagship countries of China and Brazil.</p> <p>It can be estimated that 2.8 billion people were potentially reached (based on outlet readership numbers) in flagship implementation countries through these non-global outlets.</p>	<p>The target has been overachieved.</p> <p>The multilingual media campaign for the first ten World Restoration Flagships was highly successful. This was partially also due to the good uptake of the photo-story by Reuters, which then helped with national-level distribution.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Media reach tracking (through Meltwater) – detailed list of all media in excel
<p>1.2.5 Digital content creation and outreach</p> <p>Indicator 1.2.5 Baseline: 0 Planned Target: 4 content types (Newsletters, webstories, events, multimedia) Achieved Target: 4 content types with significant improvement in reach (from 150,000 web views to over 700,000)</p>	<p>1 website acting as digital hub for the restoration movement successfully managed.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 50 events on the UN Decade from 28 partners • 39 webstories from 23 partners • 13 new publications from 10 partners • Learning sessions: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ 4 sessions ○ 10 partners hosting the sessions ○ 3185 registered participants • Newsletters: 16 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ 12 monthly newsletters + 4 special editions 	<p>While nominally the 4 content types remained the same (and were all delivered), quality and reach improved significantly as evidenced by the fact that web views grew from 150,000 to over 700,000</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Google Analytics • Google Scholar • Drupal data (Content Management System) • Hubspot data (Newsletter management)

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Going to a least of 27,000+ subscribers ● Multimedia: 15 new videos, including the ten World Restoration Flagships ● Total website views for the year: 714,553 		
1.3.1 Generation Restoration University Network Indicator 1.3.1 Baseline: 0 Planned Target: 5,000 Achieved Target: 670	<p>A university network has been established together with the UNEP Education team and Oxford University. It now spans:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● 670 universities ● 108 countries ● 857 student ambassadors 	<p>The target could not yet be reached due to the shift in priorities for the UN Decade team, namely a focus on selecting and announcing additional World Restoration Flagship announcements, which comes with substantive work load for the team. .</p> <p>However, the collaboration with and between universities is advancing well and significant actions could already be captured in data and case studies across continents.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Nature-Positive Universities Network Data collected and analyzed by Oxford University

OUTCOME 2:

	<u>Achieved</u> Indicator Targets	Reasons for Variance with Planned Target (if any)	Source of Verification
Output 2.3: Methods and knowledge for designing, implementing, sustaining and scaling up ecosystem restoration initiatives developed, disseminated and applied within specific Flagship Initiatives Indicator 2.3.1 Standards of practice to guide ecosystem restoration developed and consulted with UN Decade partners and stakeholders Baseline: 0 Planned Target: Standards of practice to guide ecosystem restoration published on	<p>Summary and full version of the Standards of Practice published online after global consultation with the restoration community and targeted consultation with Indigenous Peoples</p>		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Full version Standards of Practice (link) ● Summary version Standards of Practice (link)

<p>the UN Decade website by 2023, including a summary version to be published in April 2023, a Beta version including comments from a global consultation, and the final version to be published in September 2023 after a targeted consultation with Indigenous Peoples</p>			
<p>Indicator 2.3.2 Capacity, Knowledge and Learning Action Plan for the UN Decade developed and consulted with Task Force members and targeted stakeholder groups</p> <p>Baseline: 0 Planned Target: Capacity, Knowledge and Learning Action Plan published on the UN Decade by April 2023</p>	<p>Capacity, Knowledge and Learning Action Plan for the UN Decade, including eight capacity development initiatives tailored to different stakeholder groups, published online</p>		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Capacity, Knowledge and Learning Action Plan for the Decade (link)
<p>Indicator 2.3.3 Framework for dissemination of good restoration practices developed and embedded in the FERM Registry</p> <p>Baseline: 0 Planned Target: Framework for good practices fully operational by 2023, integrated in the FERM Registry to allow direct documentation of good practices from restoration initiatives previously registered in the platform and well as dissemination of good practices collected by three allied platforms: GoProFor, Panorama Solutions, and WOCAT</p>	<p>Framework for dissemination of good restoration practices fully developed and embedded in the FERM platform, allowing for direct documentation of good practices through the FERM Registry and dissemination of more than 1500 from collaborating platforms through the FERM common search engine</p>		<p>FERM Registry (link) FERM Common Search Engine (link)</p>
<p>Output 2.8 Design of Flagship Initiatives</p> <p>Indicator 2.8.1 Central America Dry Corridor (CADC) Flagship Initiative designed</p>	<p>Under the leadership of the FAO Regional Office in Central America, the full proposal was elaborated based on several in-country and regional consultations with UNEP, IUCN,</p>		<p>Full proposal was submitted to Executive Board and is being refined based on feedback received. Work plan for the first year under finalization to be</p>

<p>Baseline: 0 Planned Target: Central America Dry Corridor (CADC) Flagship Initiative designed based on broad consultations and submitted to Executive Board for approval</p>	<p>CIFOR/GLF, SICA, national institutions etc., feasibility studies & assessments, capacity need assessments, institutional assessments and partners identification both at national and regional levels.</p>		<p>implemented in 2024, including a stakeholder and project mapping exercise.</p>
<p>Indicator 2.8.2 Small Islands Developing States (SIDS) Flagship Initiative designed Baseline: 0 Planned Target: Small Islands Developing States (SIDS) Flagship Initiative designed based on broad consultations and submitted to Executive Board for approval</p>	<p>Under the leadership of UNEP, the full proposal has been prepared based on several in-country and regional consultations (online), preparatory / feasibility studies and assessments, capacity need assessments and visits / interviews organized on the occasion of Duty Travels of UNEP and FAO experts and international consultants.</p>		<p>Full proposal was submitted to Executive Board and is being refined based on feedback received. Work plan for the first year under finalization to be implemented in 2024, including a stakeholder and project mapping exercise.</p>
<p>Indicator 2.8.3 Great Green Wall for Sahara and Sahel Initiative (GGWSSI) Flagship Initiative designed Baseline: 0 Planned Target: Great Green Wall for Sahara and Sahel Initiative (GGWSSI) Flagship Initiative designed based on broad consultations and submitted to Executive Board for approval</p>	<p>The full proposal was prepared with the support of an international consultant facilitating multiple consultations within a core group of partners including several FAO teams, UNEP FI, GGW Accelerator (led by UNCCD), CIFOR/GLF, Pan-African Agency of the Great Green Wall Initiative and ‘l’Agence Nationale de la Grande Muraille Verte du Niger’’ (ANGMV Niger) and ‘la Coordination Nationale de l’Initiative Grande Muraille Verte pour le Sahara et le Sahel du Burkina Faso’’ (CN-IGMVSS). The proposal was also based on several in-country capacity need assessments and visits / interviews that were organized on the occasion of Duty Travels of FAO experts and international consultant (June 2022 in Burkina Faso and September 2022 in Niger).</p>		<p>Full proposal submitted in February 2023 for final clearance of the Executive Board. Final version of the flagship was presented to national partners in Ouagadougou, Burkina Faso in June 2023 during the final workshop of the FFEM-funded project: « Restauration des Forêts et des Paysages et Gestion Durable des Terres au Sahel (RFP/GDD). During the 2nd semester of 2023, the project document was fine-tuned, MPTF board comments were addressed and launch event was scheduled for February 2024 in Burkina Faso. End of 2023, the project management teams in Burkina Faso and in Niger were in place and ready to start implementation early 2024.</p>

<p>Indicator 2.8.4 Potential additional Flagships initiatives identified</p> <p>Baseline: 0 Planned Target: List of additional flagships that can receive communication and/or targeted support</p>	<p>List of 10 flagships proposed for MPTF targeted support was assessed and approved, with seven new flagships to be awarded in 2024.</p>		<p>The ten flagships proposed to receive MPTF support were requested to submit a second application form to assess needs and activities in which the targeted support will be focused.</p>
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OUTCOME 3:

	<u>Achieved</u> Indicator Targets	Reasons for Variance with Planned Target (if any)	Source of Verification
<p>Outcome 3⁸ Results documented and shared, through monitoring and reporting of biophysical and socio-economic elements of sustainable ecosystem restoration and influencing activities for ecosystem restoration Indicator: Indicator 3.1: Number of stakeholders in government, private sector and civil society measuring their biophysical and socio-economic progress and reporting regularly through the Framework for Ecosystem Restoration (FERM) Indicator 3.2: Percent annual change in area of local ecosystems measured and reported through the FERM Indicator 3.3: Volume of annual financial resources to on-the-ground ecosystem restoration reported through the FERM. Indicator 3.4: Number of restoration stakeholders in government, private sector and civil society MPTF produced knowledge</p>	<p>Indicator 3.1: By the end of 2023, there are about 400 registered users, representing a variety of stakeholder groups.</p> <p>Indicator 3.2: will be reported in 2025/2026</p> <p>Indicator 3.3: financial resources are not measured through the FERM</p> <p>Indicator 3.4: the Monitoring Task Force produced various types of knowledge products in 2023 to inform restoration actions and decision making and distributed them during a series of events: the Land and Carbon Lab, CBD SBSTTA side event, Mediterranean forest training, Developing a roadmap for the</p>	<p>Country reporting through the FERM is aligned with the GBF Target 2, and countries will submit their reports in 2026.</p>	<p>FAO’s work on ecosystem restoration monitoring (link) FAO’s work on GBF Target 2 (link) Roadmap for Target 2 website (link) Roadmap for Target 2 publication (link) Target 2 indicator metadata form (link) Roadmap for Target 2 workshop report (link) Contribution to CBD Target 2 Quick Guide (link) Monitoring Task Force Briefing Note updated (link)</p> <p>The FERM user guidance document (link)</p>

⁸ Note: Outcomes, outputs, indicators and targets should be **as outlined in the Project Document** so that you report on your **actual achievements against planned targets**. Add rows as required for Outcome 2, 3 etc.

<p>products to inform restoration actions and decision making.</p> <p>Baseline: No baseline Planned Target: Catalyze the global restoration community with monitoring and reporting guidance and platforms to contribute to the restoration of 30% of degraded ecosystems by 2030.</p>	<p>Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework Target 2 Workshop. FAO Forestry’s twitter assisted in the distribution of these knowledge products, including 1 report (Roadmap for Target 2), 1 story map (se.plan), 2 short documents (metadata and roadmap), 1 webpage (Roadmap to Target 2), 1 video on FERM, 1 on se.plan, and recording of the Roadmap workshop. Additionally, 2 living documents were updated (briefing note, FERM user guide).</p>		<p>FERM video (link)</p> <p>Se.plan interview video (link)</p> <p>Se.plan story map (link)</p>
<p>Output 3.1 Monitoring and reporting framework established, strengthened and made available for monitoring restoration – supported by a geospatial dissemination platform, capacity development, science, technology and innovation</p> <p>Indicator 3.1.1 FERM Registry developed and tested by restoration stakeholders</p> <p>Baseline: No platform for reporting ecosystem restoration Planned Target: Full operational version of the FERM registry developed and launched during 2023</p>	<p>Indicator 3.1.1: In 2023, the FERM registry was improved in terms of user interface and functionalities.</p> <p>By the end of 2023, there are about 400 registered users, representing a variety of stakeholder groups.</p> <p>The FERM user guidance document updated to reflect the latest developments.</p> <p>Trainings provided to 189 people involved in FAO GEF projects on using FERM and injecting GEF project data.</p>		<p>FERM available at (link)</p>
<p>Indicator 3.1.2 Integrate geospatial data from other restoration monitoring platforms into the FERM.</p> <p>Registry Baseline: no Planned Target: Workflow for integration of Collect Earth assessments developed in 2022; QA/QC protocols agreed in 2023;</p>	<p>UN Decade headline indicators updated in the FERM geospatial platform by using API.</p>	<p>This activity will be continued in 2024 and 2025</p>	<p>Updates available on the FERM platform (link)</p>

<p>Data integration complete for Annual report</p>			
<p>Indicator 3.1.3 Strengthen the FERM platform based on a user survey.</p> <p>Baseline: FERM platform MVP launched in 2021 Planned Target: Updated FERM platform launched with operational FERM registry in 2023</p>	<p>FERM platform has been further developed to align with the Target 2 metadata. The user feedback was collected at the 12th task force meeting.</p>		<p>Updates available on the FERM platform (link) The FERM user guidance document updated to reflect the latest developments (link) Roadmap to Target 2 workshop report (link)</p>
<p>Indicator 3.1.4 E-learning course on monitoring restoration for efficient capacity development</p> <p>Baseline: No baseline Planned Target: E-learning course launched with updated FERM registry and platform in 2023</p>	<p>Preliminary materials developed, progress will be reported in 2024/2025</p>	<p>The e-learning will be based on the Target 2 resource manual which is under development. The e-learning will be launched in 2024/2025.</p>	
<p>Indicator 3.1.5 Headline indicators for global level monitoring identified, consulted with Monitoring TF and other key experts. Workflows with custodian agencies documented</p> <p>Baseline: No global indicators for ecosystem restoration Planned Target: A set of indicators that can explain the progress of restoration actions across all ecosystem types globally in 2022; Workflow for FAO's FRA and its contribution to monitoring forest restoration established in 2022; Annual review of indicators in December 2023 and annually thereafter for dashboard and annual report</p>	<p>In 2023, metadata of GBF Target 2 headline indicator area under restoration drafted and updated. This indicator is the headline indicator for global level monitoring of restoration, in addition to the 20 SDG indicators. The SDG indicators are included in the FERM geospatial platform, as well as the FRA data and has been updated in 2023. The global indicators will be integrated into the updated FERM Dashboard in 2024/2025.</p>		<p>Target 2 indicator metadata form (link) FERM geospatial (link)</p>

<p>Indicator 3.1.6 A live dashboard for restoration monitoring developed, tested and made available on FERM platform</p> <p>Baseline: No dashboard available Planned Target: Live dashboard available in 2023</p>	<p>Dashboard functionality available through the FERM geospatial (link)</p> <p>An updated and more advanced Dashboard will be developed in 2024/2025</p> <p>The dashboard development is aligned to the timeline of CBD Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework Target 2 reporting.</p>		
<p>Output 3.2 A global community for restoration monitoring leveraged to enable knowledge exchange and methodological development to overcome ecosystem specific data, monitoring and reporting challenges</p> <p>Indicator 3.2.1 Meetings of Monitoring Task Force convened</p> <p>Baseline: 5 Task Force meetings between 2020-2021 Planned Target: At least two meetings of the full TF per annum – at least two meetings of sub-TFs per annum</p>	<p>Indicator 3.2.1</p> <p>6 TF meetings conveyed:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - 9th meeting (11 May 2023) during the Global Forest Observations Initiative (GFOI) 2023 Plenary - 10th online meeting (18 July 2023) - 11th meeting convened at SBSTTA 25 as a side event 12th meeting convened as a workshop on developing a roadmap for supporting ecosystem restoration under the KM-GBF (22-24 Nov 2023) Sub-task force meeting convened as a workshop on restoration data harmonization and interoperability (21 Nov 2023) Sub-task force meeting convened as an event at the Land and Carbon Lab conference 		<p>9th TF meeting (link)</p> <p>GFOI 2023 Plenary (link)</p> <p>10th TF meeting (link)</p> <p>Target 2 workshop (link)</p> <p>Data harmonization and interoperability workshop (link)</p>
<p>Indicator 3.2.2 Annual forum on technology and innovation for restoration monitoring</p> <p>Baseline: First technology and innovation forum held in 2021 Planned Target: Annual forum from 2023</p>	<p>Progress will be reported in 2024</p>		

<p>Output 3.3 Annual reports on the progress of ecosystem restoration using biophysical and socio-economic indicators, best-available data, inclusive of global flows of private and public financial investment towards ecosystem restoration produced and made available</p> <p>Indicator 3.3.1 Annual report consulted with the UN Decade EB (or management team)</p> <p>Baseline: No baseline Planned Target: A draft outline developed by June 2023; First Annual report by December 2023</p>	<p>Indicator 3.3.1 Draft outline developed in 2023</p> <p>Progress will be reported in 2024</p>		
<p>Indicator 3.3.2 Develop Information Note for monitoring CBD Target 2 (restoration) through working group of the TF Monitoring</p> <p>Baseline: No baseline Planned Target: Near final Information Note in 2022</p>	<p>Indicator metadata updated in June 2023</p>		<p>Target 2 indicator metadata form (link)</p>
<p>Indicator 3.3.3 Support monitoring and reporting against CBD restoration target 2 (restoration); Area under restoration and connectivity reported through the dashboard (3.1.6)</p> <p>Baseline: No baseline Planned Target: Support to CBD reporting processes in 2024</p>	<p>Dashboard mockup developed and consulted internally. Data compilation is ongoing. Progress will be reported in 2024</p>		
<p>Indicator 3.3.4 Data for Investment flows and jobs from restoration actions captured and reported</p>			

<p>Baseline: No baseline Planned Target: Analysis and narrative developed for annual report by 2023 and annually thereafter</p>			
<p>Output 3.4 Monitoring case studies and knowledge products developed and made available on the monitoring of key local ecosystems where data gaps, normative data collection and restoration indicators require further research and development</p> <p>Indicator 3.4.1 Critical data and information gaps in restoration monitoring identified and actioned</p> <p>Baseline: No baseline Planned Target: Research and development commissioned to fill critical data and information gaps by 2024</p>	<p>Indicator 3.4.1 In 2023, pilot countries have been identified and a letter of agreement has been signed with CIFOR-ICRAF to develop knowledge products on the monitoring of key local ecosystems where data gaps, normative data collection and restoration indicators require further research and development</p> <p>Pilot country work will begin in earnest in 2024 and progress on critical data and information gaps in restoration monitoring will be further reported in 2024</p>		
<p>Indicator 3.4.2 Develop sector-specific ecosystem restoration monitoring guidelines (e.g. restoration and removals accounting for ART/TREES)</p> <p>Baseline: No guidance available Planned Target: One guidance note published (ART/TREES) by 2024</p>	<p>Progress will be reported in 2024/2025</p>		
<p>Indicator 3.4.3 Develop and apply geospatial tools to support estimation of restoration potential considering biophysical and socio-economic costs and benefits</p> <p>Baseline: No baseline</p>	<p>At least 12 countries supported in 2023.</p> <p>Delivered an in-depth training on se.plan to Fiji at a national workshop in March 2023, as well as follow up on its use and application and at a regional FLRM Mediterranean</p>		<p>Se.plan website (link) Story map of restoration potential analysis in Vietnam (link)</p>

<p>Planned Target: se.plan application for estimating cost-effective restoration in 10 countries by 2024</p>	<p>workshop delivered a training to: Turkey, Morocco, Tunisia, Lebanon, Jordan, Spain, Italy, Portugal, Greece, and France on se.plan during the October 2023. Training and follow up provided to Viet Nam</p> <p>A regional report on restoration opportunities in Asia-Pacific was finalized in 2023.</p> <p>A website dedicated to se.plan was developed.</p>		
<p>Indicator 3.4.4 Highlight successful restoration projects monitoring for joint learning of all actors</p> <p>Baseline: No baseline Planned Target: Two impact stories published by 2024</p>	<p>The FERM search engine of good restoration practices launched in June 2023, featuring over 1,000 good practices. Joint learning will be organized in 2024.</p>		<p>FERM search engine for good practices (link)</p>
<p>Output 3.5 Targeted monitoring support (capacity development / technology transfer) provided to on-the-ground UN Decade Flagships</p> <p>Indicator 3.5.1 Deploy FERM architecture to full UN Decade Flagships (GGW, SIDS, Central America Dry Corridor)</p> <p>Baseline: No baseline Planned Target: FERM technical deployment proceeding in line with flagship work plans by 2024</p>	<p>Indicator 3.5.1: The focal points from the first 10 global restoration flagships were trained in using the FERM and supported in providing geospatial data in the FERM registry and highlighted in the FERM platform and the home page.</p>		<p>FERM geospatial platform (link) FERM home page (link)</p>
<p>Indicator 3.5.2 Coordinate and align with stakeholders and actors working on</p>	<p>Progress will be reported in 2024/2025</p>		

<p>restoration and restoration monitoring in full Flagships</p> <p>Baseline: No baseline Planned Target: Work plans agreed with key stakeholders and actors by 2024</p>			
<p>Indicator 3.5.3 Populate FERM registry for full Flagships to ensure key restoration project interventions are geospatially referenced</p> <p>Baseline: No baseline Planned Target: FERM registry populated and publicly available for full Flagships by 2024</p>	<p>The focal points from the full Flagships were trained in using the FERM and supported in providing geospatial data in the FERM registry and highlighted in the FERM platform and the home page.</p>		<p>Example: Indonesia flagship FERM home page (link)</p>
<p>Indicator 3.5.4 Support full Flagships in setting baselines, measuring progress and regularly reporting progress (biophysical and socio-economic)</p> <p>Baseline: No baseline Planned Target: Baseline data, Regular monitoring and reporting against baselines by 2024</p>	<p>Progress will be reported in 2024/2025</p>		
<p>Indicator 3.5.5 Provide (on-demand) targeted support to endorsed UN Decade Flagships to ensure adequate geospatial information for monitoring progress</p> <p>Baseline: No baseline Planned Target: 10 requests for Targeted Support in 2 years by 2024</p>	<p>Data from the first 10 global restoration flagships integrated and spotlighted in the FERM geospatial platform and the FERM home page.</p>		<p>FERM geospatial platform (link) FERM home page (link)</p>

