

Restoring Earth: Nature in the 21st Century

UN Decade on Ecosystem Restoration (2021-2030)

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UN Decade: Background

UN General Assembly resolution A/RES/73/284 (1 March 2019):

"To prevent, halt and reverse the degradation of ecosystems worldwide"

UNEP and **FAO** invited to

"lead the implementation of the Decade, in collaboration with the secretariats of the Rio conventions, other relevant multilateral environmental agreements and entities of the United Nations system [...]"

Strategy and **visual identity** released in 2020, Decade launched on 5 June 2021

Focus on enhancing and supporting existing restoration commitments and implementation of **Rio Conventions** and the **SDGs**



Key Messages

- **Healthy and productive ecosystems** are the basis for our economy and society
- We might be close to natural tipping points or '**points of no return**' on climate change
- **Nature** must be part of an all-out **decarbonization** effort. **Nature-based solutions** have benefits beyond climate action
- **Conservation** of nature no longer enough – we must actively **restore**
- Restoration is **not only** an issue for **developing countries** – much can happen in the UK & Europe, in particular reforming **agriculture and food systems**
- Repurposing fossil fuel & agriculture subsidies can provide significant **climate finance**
- What is needed now: **political will for transformative change**



Ecosystems worldwide are under pressure



FARMLANDS

Croplands and pastures
(modified grasslands on which domestic
animals are grazed)

**4.8
billion ha^a**

Croplands and pastures cover ~12% and
26% of the world's ice-free land^b

20%

of croplands show stressed or
declining productivity^c



FORESTS

Tropical, subtropical, temperate, boreal
and polar forests, plantations, low-density
woodlands and agroforests

**4.06
billion ha**

~31% of global land area^d

~420 million ha

of forest have been converted to other
land uses since 1990^e



FRESHWATER

Rivers, lakes, wetlands
and other inland waters

<0.01%

of the earth's surface^f

35%

average decline in area of natural inland
wetlands since 1970^g, with 87% total loss
since 1700^h



GRASSLANDS, SHRUBLANDS & SAVANNAHS

Shrublands, shrubby woodlands,
heathlands, savannahs, steppes and
grasslands

Grasslands and savannahs cover

26-40%

of the earth's land surfaceⁱ

~19%

of grasslands and 27% per cent of
rangelands show stressed or declining
productivity^j



MOUNTAINS

Found on all of the world's continents, in
biomes from hot deserts to tropical forests
to polar ice caps

27%

of global land area^k

5 days

per decade = average decline in duration
of mountain snow cover, especially at
lower elevation^l



OCEANS & COASTS

Tropical, temperate and polar marine
ecosystems from shallow coastal to
deep sea

Oceans occupy

36 billion ha^m

~66%

of ocean ecosystems are damaged,
degraded or modifiedⁿ. ~1/3 of
commercial marine fish populations are
fished unsustainably^o



PEATLANDS

Wetland habitats with organic peaty soils
(e.g. marshes, swamps, fens and bogs)

~400 million ha

across 169 countries^p

Degradation has affected nearly

65 million ha

of peatlands^q, especially in Europe,
Central and Southeast Asia, East Africa,
southernmost America and the Amazon^r



URBAN AREAS

Cities, towns and villages. Habitats in green
spaces and waterways

2%

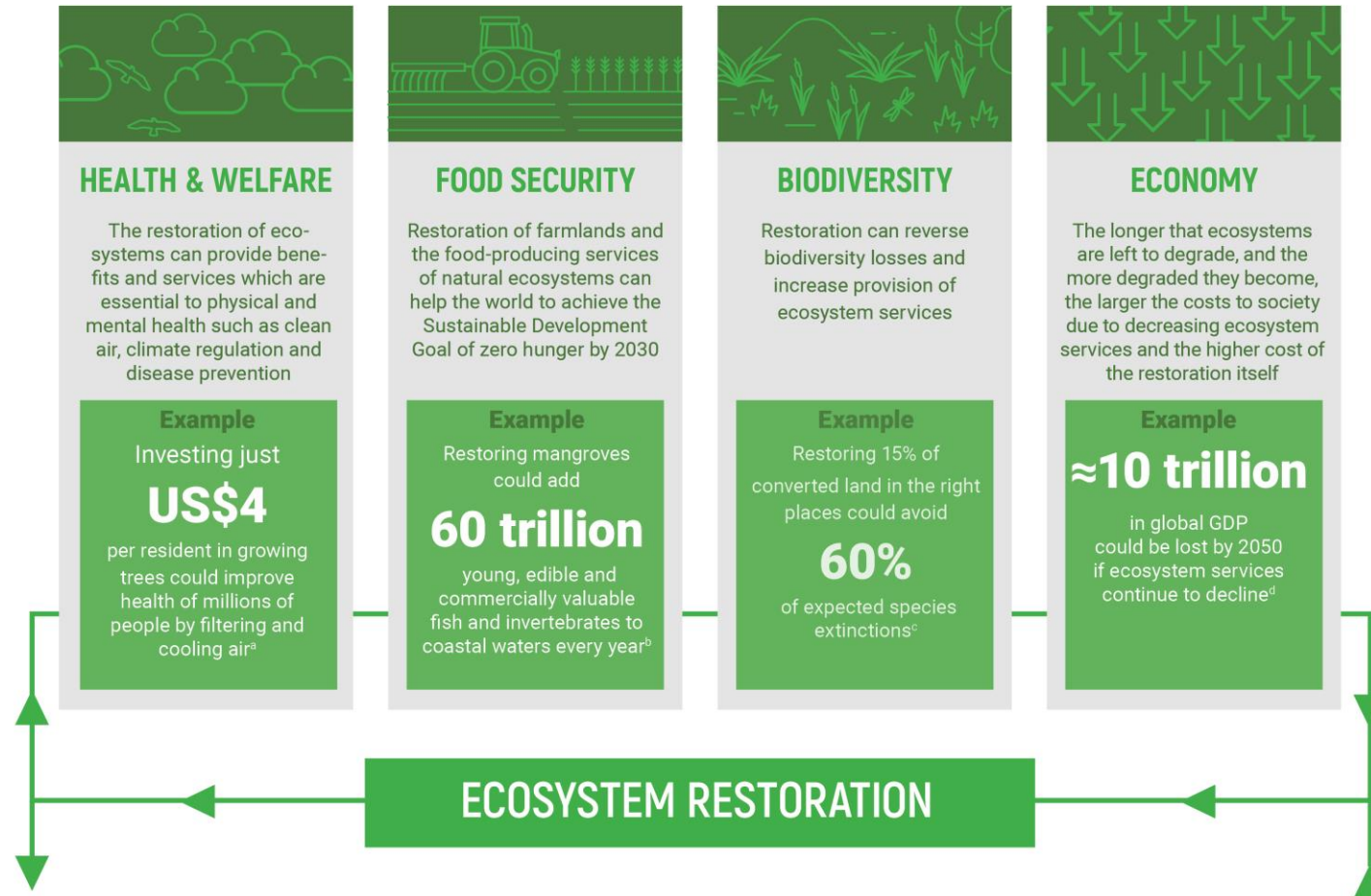
of global land area^s

>50%

Since 2000, the number of city inhabitants
without access to safely managed
drinking water has increased by more
than 50 per cent^t

^a FAO 2016a, ^b Foley et al. 2011, ^c UNCCD 2017, ^d FAO and UNEP 2020, ^e FAO and UNEP 2020, ^f Lehner and Döll 2004, ^g Darrah et al. 2019, ^h Reid et al. 2020, ⁱ Dudley et al. 2020, ^j UNCCD 2017, ^k Romeo et al. 2020, ^l IPCC 2019, ^m NOAA 2020a, ⁿ IPBES 2019, ^o FAO 2016b, ^p Joosten 2009; Kirpotin et al. 2021, ^q Bonn et al. 2016, ^r FAO 2020a, ^s UN Habitat 2020, ^t UN-Water, 2021

Healthy, restored ecosystems provide many benefits



Vision

A **world** where — for the health & wellbeing of **all life on Earth** & that of **future generations** the **relationship** between humans and nature has been **restored**, where the area of healthy ecosystems is **increasing** and where ecosystem loss, fragmentation and degradation has been **ended**.



3 Pathways until 2030

1. A global movement

- Digital hub
- Awareness
- Education
- Ethics
- Economics
- Financing mechanisms

2. Political will

- Leaders as champions
- Legislation and policy
- Cross-sectoral dialogues
- Redirect subsidies

3. Technical capacity

- Design, implement, monitor & sustain
- Long-term research
- Lessons learned
- Indigenous knowledge
- Land tenure and FPIC



Building a global movement: from commitments to action

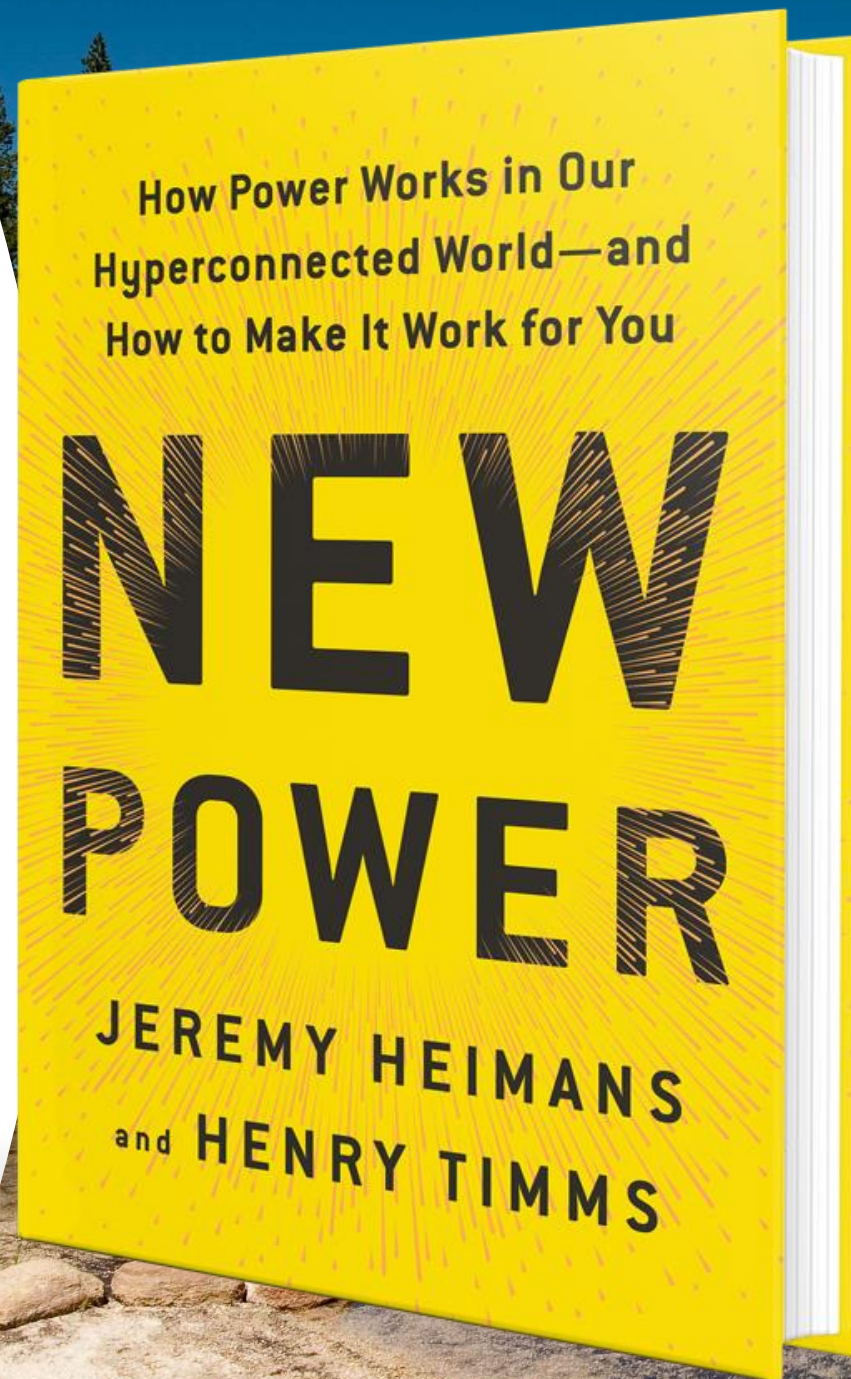
A networked approach that...

- Connects **hundreds** of selected global partners...
- To **thousands** of local implementers...
- Reaching **hundreds of millions** across the globe...

Building on insights from *New Power* to strengthen ownership and celebrate existing efforts by all stakeholders and within countries

Messaging - Positive and inclusive antidote to climate anxiety while inspiring a new **#GenerationRestoration**

Innovations - An interactive digital hub for the Decade to communicate, support and scale action on the ground



Partnership Framework

- Lead Agencies
- Collaborating Agencies
- Funding Partners
- Voices

- Global Partners
- Supporting Partners
- Restoration Implementers
- Actors



Advocacy, communications and awareness raising



**REIMAGINE
RECREATE
RESTORE**
#GenerationRestoration



**WORLD
ENVIRONMENT
DAY**

UN
environment
programme



**PAKISTAN
2021**

Building on existing efforts and experiences

Upscaling and **replicating** existing restoration projects in oceans, forests, grasslands, estuaries, mangroves, wetlands and savannas



Source: The Nature Conservancy



Source: Texas Community Watershed Partners



Visual Identity – links with key SDGs



Share it.

Adapt it.

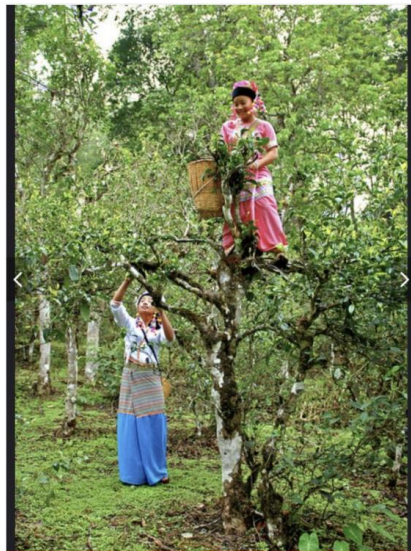
Make it your own!



ECO HONEY HUB

Use #GenerationRestoration

to tag all your restoration related activities



59 testimonies to humankind's ingenuity and more to come: the Globally Important #AgriculturalHeritage Systems (GIAHS). Learn more about the role of #GIAHS in protecting our ecosystems & sustaining livelihoods: 👉



Raschad Al-Khafaji (@Rasch...
30 seconds ago



【 Every Sunday is Our Environment Day 🌱 】 【 ચાલો એક દિવસ, એક રવિવાર પ્રકૃતિને સમર્પિત કરીએ 】 【 10 કરોડ વડના વૃક્ષો વાવવા માટેનું મહાઅભિયાન 】 સર્વોદય મંડળની બેઠક ગાંધી આશ્રમ, ઝીલીયા, ચાણસ્મામાં આયોજિત થઈ જેમાં સમાજની સે...

Instagram User
15 hours ago



As a member of the YIL_Initiative Social Media project team, I'm hosting a giveaway for free 🎫 tickets to the #GLFAmazonia Digital Conference 🌿. Tell me why the Amazon rainforest matters to you for a chance to win ...

Instagram User
17 hours ago



Instagram User
40 minutes ago



Bushcare this week will be on Friday (24th) from 9.00-11.30am! Meet us at the SW corner of carpark 3. Pictured is a big wonderful river red gum (Eucalyptus camaldulensis) on site and then swipe right to see how much f...

Instagram User
an hour ago



Instagram User
40 minutes ago



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Instagram User
an hour ago



#colorsofindia #road #worldphotography #worldphotographyhub #igcal...

Instagram User
55 minutes ago



Black-Rumped Flameback 🍷. Swipe ➡️ to see close-up shot!! . . . #sonyalphain #sonya9 #sony200600 sonyalphain sonyalpha #sonyalpha sonywildlife . . . #your_best_birds #bestbirdshots #kings_birds_ #birds_captur...

Instagram User
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Resources & Contacts

The **Ecosystem Restoration Playbook** – a practical guide to healing the planet

FAO Position paper on “Ecosystem Restoration” of production ecosystems, in the context of the UN Decade

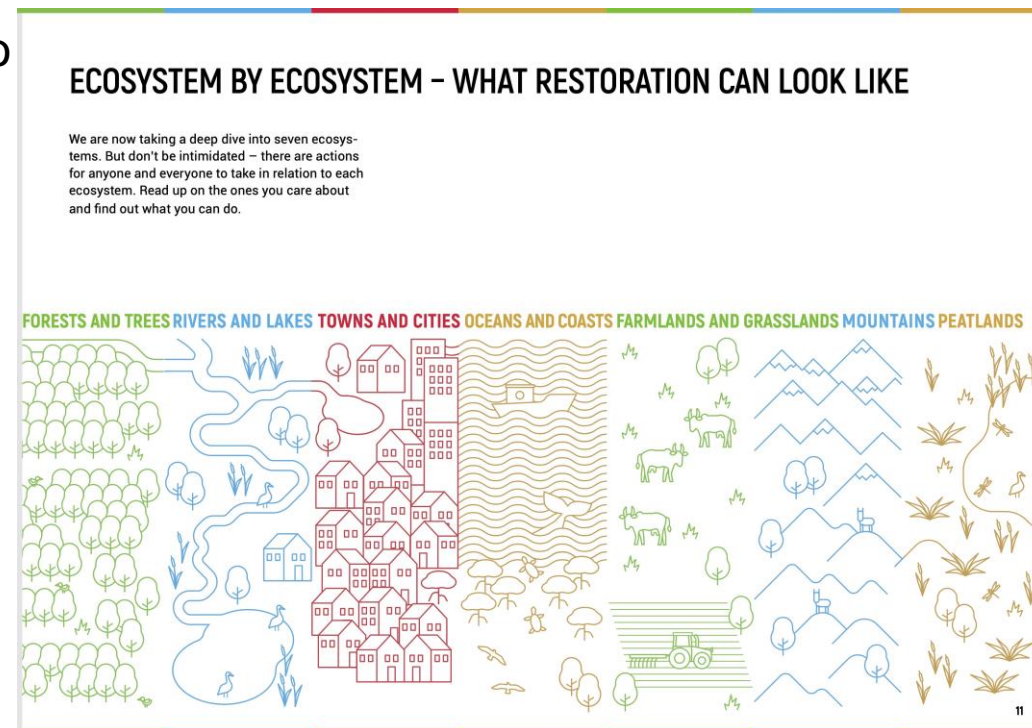
10 Restoration Principles to guide the Ecosystem Restoration through the Decade (by FAO, IUCN CEM, SER)

More... visit www.decadeonrestoration.org for news, publications, videos, and communication resources

Contacts

UNEP restorationdecade@un.org

FAO decade-on-restoration@fao.org



A vibrant orange and yellow flower spike, likely a torch lily, dominates the left side of the image. A small bird with a long, dark beak and a red eye is perched on the stem of the flower, facing right. The background is a soft, out-of-focus green.

— Thank you



UN 
environment
programme

Join the
#GenerationRestoration

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