

Ministerial Roundtable on Forest Landscape Restoration in the Caucasus and Central Asia

21-22 June 2018 | Astana | Kazakhstan

Programme

Thursday, 21 June 2018

08:30 – 09:00	Registration of participants for the field trip <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Meeting point: Lobby of The Ritz-Carlton Hotel Departure for the tree planting ceremony and field trip by coach at 09:00
09:00 – 10:00	Tree planting ceremony at the Palace of Peace and Reconciliation of Astana
10:00 – 14:00	FIELD TRIP TO THE GREEN BELT OF ASTANA <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Excursion to the Akkayin tree nursery Visit to the pheasant breeding center Overview of the Green Belt plantations
14:00 – 15:30	TRADITIONAL LUNCH IN A YURT
15:30 – 17:00	Return to Astana city

Friday, 22 June 2018

08:30 – 09:00	Registration of participants
09:00 – 10:00	OPENING <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Welcoming speech by Mr. Umirzak Shukeyev, Deputy Prime Minister – Minister of Agriculture of the Republic of Kazakhstan Opening remarks by Ms. Beate Jessel, President of the Federal Agency for Nature Conservation of Germany Opening remarks by Ms. Olga Algayerova, Executive Secretary, United Nations Economic Commission for Europe Opening remarks by Mr. Vladimir Rakhmanin, Assistant Director-General, Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations Keynote speech by Mr. Stewart Maginnis, Global Director of the Nature-based Solutions Group, International Union for Conservation of Nature
10:00 – 10:30	TEA/COFFEE BREAK AND GROUP PHOTO

SESSION 1: ACHIEVING FOREST LANDSCAPE RESTORATION – NATIONAL/REGIONAL EXPERIENCES

Moderated by: Mr. Yerlan Nysanbayev, Deputy Minister of Agriculture of the Republic of Kazakhstan and Ms. Beate Jessel, President of the Federal Agency for Nature Conservation of Germany

Ministers will be invited to contribute their domestic experiences in identifying restoration opportunities and addressing challenges to implementation.

Ministers may wish to address some of the following issues:

- How are restoration opportunities identified and prioritised in your country?
 - What are the challenges in moving from assessing restoration opportunities, to developing concrete restoration plans, to implementing these plans?
 - What is the role of national and provincial/state governments in providing an enabling policy environment or facilitating and incentivising for restoration?
 - How do inter-institutional and inter-sectoral coordination mechanisms contribute to advancing a comprehensive agenda on FLR?
 - How do challenges and opportunities differ based on the specific national context – policies, regulation the role of the private sector, etc.?
- **Presentation on “Conservation and sustainable management of important ecosystems of the Republic of Kazakhstan for multiple benefits”, Mr. Talgat Kerteshev, Biodiversity projects Portfolio Manager, UNDP Kazakhstan**
 - **Synthesis presentation on restoration opportunities and summary of the key discussion points, Mr. Niels Thevs, World Agroforestry Centre**

10:30 – 12:30

12:30 – 13:30

LUNCH BREAK

SESSION 2: FINANCING RESTORATION

Moderated by: Ms. Carole Saint-Laurent, Coordinator of the Global Partnership on Forest Landscape Restoration (GPFLR), International Union for Conservation of Nature

- **Presentation on APFNet cooperation with the Greater Central Asia region, Mr. Xia Jun, Assistant Executive Director, Asia-Pacific Network for Sustainable Forest Management and Rehabilitation (APFNet)**

Ministers will be invited to speak about their experience in accessing funding for restoration activities, costs per hectare, returns achieved, challenges and opportunities.

Ministers may wish to address some of the following issues:

- How can the Bonn Challenge serve as a platform to facilitate greater access to internal and external financing for restoration?
 - What motivates different actors to engage in and finance restoration?
 - What results are they seeing in line with these motivations/expectations?
 - How can domestic resources be mobilized or redirected to better support restoration of forest landscapes (e.g. current fiscal or tax incentives that could support activities compatible with restoration)?
- **Presentation on the Central Asian Desert Initiative (CADI), Mr. Jens Wunderlich, Michael Succow Foundation**

13:30 – 15:00

15:00 – 15:30

TEA/COFFEE BREAK

SESSION 3: PLEDGES AND COMMITMENTS

Moderated by: Ms. Olga Algayerova, Executive Secretary, United Nations Economic Commission for Europe and Mr. Vladimir Rakhmanin, Assistant Director-General, Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations

Ministers will be invited to announce their commitments to the Bonn Challenge and speak about national goals on forest restoration, regional cooperation and experience in monitoring efforts.

Ministers may wish to address the following issues:

- How will the Bonn Challenge pledge and FLR implementation support national goals? How can it be integrated into your country's international commitments on climate change, biodiversity and desertification?
- How can new areas for restoration be identified and existing plans and restoration efforts be aligned with the Bonn Challenge?
- How can progress on implementation of the Bonn Challenge commitments be effectively monitored and reported upon? What indicators, tools and approaches are currently used by countries that can also be used to monitor restoration?
- How can this be done in a way that is credible yet does not impose an additional burden? Is it possible to build on existing reporting frameworks (e.g. domestic arrangements, Aichi Biodiversity Targets, UNFCCC NDCs, SDGs, etc.)?
- How can bottlenecks to implementation be identified so that technical and financial support can be unlocked to address these?

15:30 – 17:00

CONCLUDING REMARKS AND CLOSING

Closing of the meeting by Mr. Kair Ryskeldinov, Chairman of the Forestry and Wildlife Committee of the Ministry of Agriculture of the Republic of Kazakhstan

17:00 – 17:30

PRESS CONFERENCE

Announcement on new restoration commitments and pledges to the Bonn Challenge and summary of the Ministerial Roundtables.

Mr. Kair Ryskeldinov, Chairman of the Forestry and Wildlife Committee of the Ministry of Agriculture of the Republic of Kazakhstan; Mr. Stewart Maginnis, Global Director of the Nature-based Solutions Group, IUCN; Ms. Olga Algayerova, Executive Secretary, UNECE; Mr. Vladimir Rakhmanin, Assistant Director-General, FAO; Mr. Horst Freiberg, Ministry for Environment, Nature Conservation and Nuclear Safety of Germany

17:30 – 18:00

OFFICIAL DINNER

19:00 – 21:00

Further Information: <https://www.unece.org/index.php?id=47712>

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