Module 3 |
Forest Landscape Restoration (FLR)
Facilitation and Capacity Development
STOP ILLEGAL
TIMBER FELLING
ITTO-IUFRO: FLR Learning Modules

Module 3: Objective

Learning level:

Students at high schools, training centres and universities.

Learning objective:

Present the capacities at all levels required for successful FLR, and share promising approaches to capacity building programmes targeting different audiences involved in restoration activities.

Forest Landscape Restoration (FLR) Facilitation and Capacity Development.

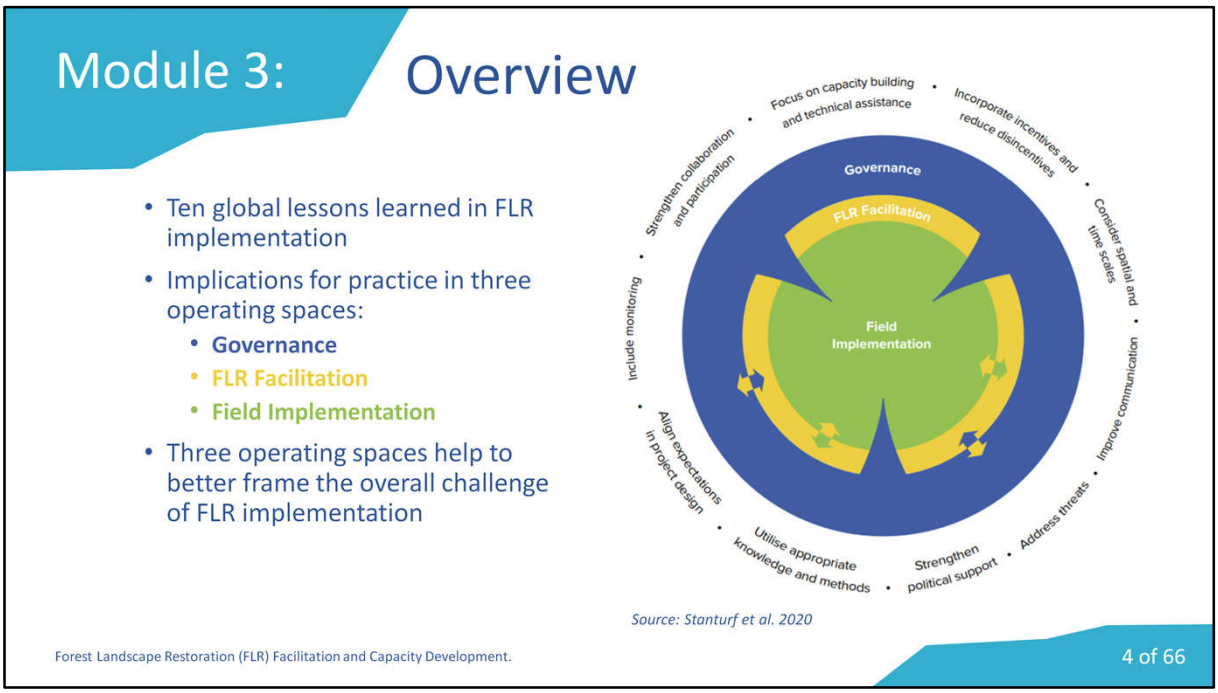
2 of 66

Module 3: Outline

- Overview
- TOPIC 1: International FLR initiatives
- TOPIC 2: Capacities for FLR
- TOPIC 3: Operating spaces in FLR
- TOPIC 4: Governance
- TOPIC 5: Field implementation
- TOPIC 6: FLR facilitation
- Summary
- Credits

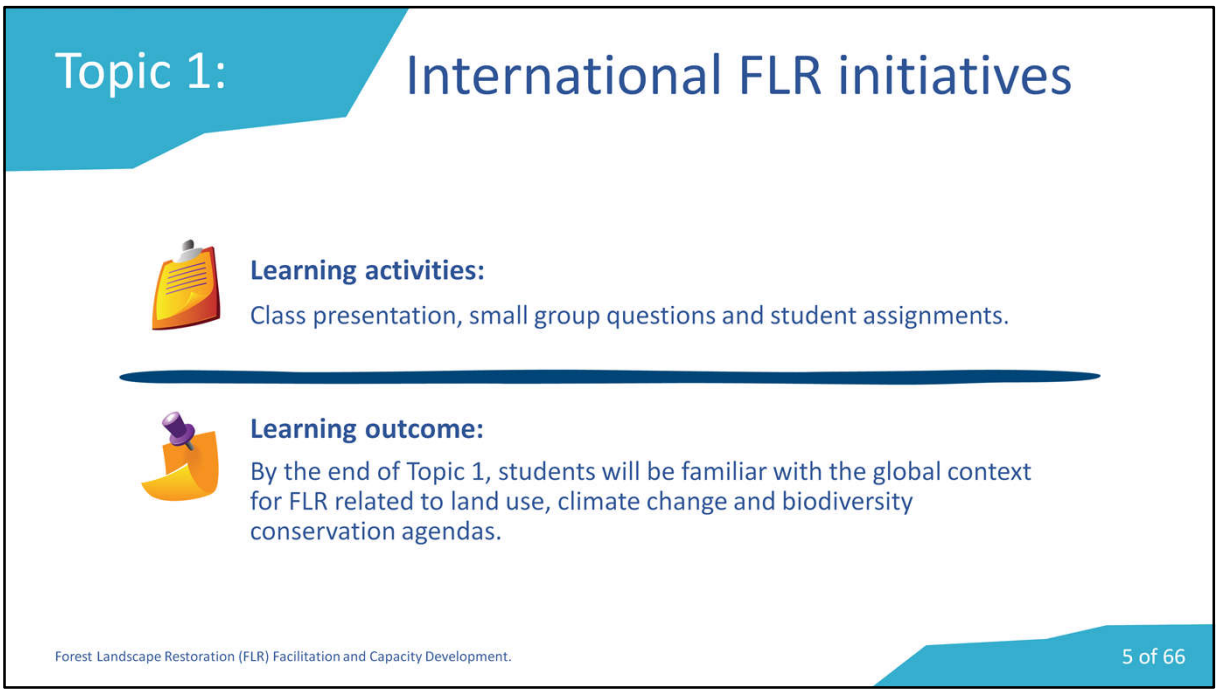
Forest Landscape Restoration (FLR) Facilitation and Capacity Development.

3 of 66



This module is structured around IUFRO's global snapshot study of FLR implementation on the ground, published in Stanturf et al. 2020. The study synthesizes 10 lessons learned in FLR implementation from 9 countries across the globe and their implications for practice in three operating spaces of FLR: governance, FLR facilitation and field implementation

- Viewing capacity needs and interventions in FLR in the framework of three operating spaces can help to better frame the overall challenge of FLR implementation


Topic 1:
International FLR initiatives
Learning activities:
Class presentation, small group questions and student assignments.
Learning outcome:
By the end of Topic 1, students will be familiar with the global context for FLR related to land use, climate change and biodiversity conservation agendas.
Forest Landscape Restoration (FLR) Facilitation and Capacity Development.
5 of 66

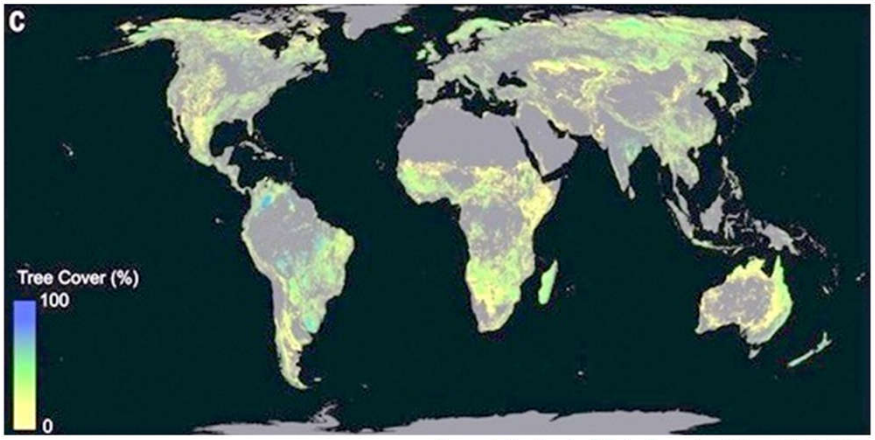
Topic 1: International FLR initiatives

Rationale for ecosystem restoration:

- Restoration as a global answer to address
- Climate Change:` *Paris Agreement*
- Biodiversity loss: *Post-2020 GBF*
- Land degradation: *LDN targets*
- Socio-economic impacts: *SDGs*
- Large areas theoretically available for restoration

Source: Global Forest Watch, 2016

Topic 1: International FLR initiatives



Source: Robin Chazdon & Pedro Brancalion, Science 05 July 2019

Topic 1: 1.1 FLR as a global movement

- Bonn Challenge: Global commitment to restore 150 million ha by 2020 and 350 million ha by 2030
- Regional offsprings in Africa, Asia, and Latin America
- Global Partnership on Forest and Landscape Restoration

Examples of Initiatives

Forest Landscape Restoration (FLR) Facilitation and Capacity Development.

8 of 66

Topic 1:

1.2 UN Decade on Restoration 2021-2030

- Emerged out of Bonn Challenge: 2018 El Salvador proposed UN Decade on Restoration in Bonn Challenge high level meeting
- Global movement to ramp up restoration and put the world on track for a sustainable future by 2030 (coinciding with SDGs)
- Balance ecological, social and developmental priorities in landscapes where different forms of land use interact, fostering long term resilience

UN environment

Source: unep.org

UNITED NATIONS DECADE ON ECOSYSTEM RESTORATION 2021-2030

Source: decadeonrestoration.org

FAO FIAT PANIS

Source: fao.org

Forest Landscape Restoration (FLR) Facilitation and Capacity Development.

9 of 66

Topic 1: References and resources

- Discover #GenerationRestoration and the United Nations Decade on Ecosystem Restoration 2021-2030: https://www.decadeonrestoration.org/
- Learn about the Bonn Challenge and various regional restoration initiatives: https://bonnchallenge.org/
- Find out how members of the Global Partnership on Forest and Landscape Restoration (GPFLR) act to achieve restoration goals: https://www.forestlandscaperestoration.org/

Topic 1: References and resources

Watch this **2 minute video** showing how GLF Chapters empower communities to connect, share, learn and accelerate action towards sustainable landscapes:

- https://youtu.be/Xig4CM8tY2I

Watch this **1 minute video** introducing the United Nations Decade on Ecosystem Restoration 2021-2030:

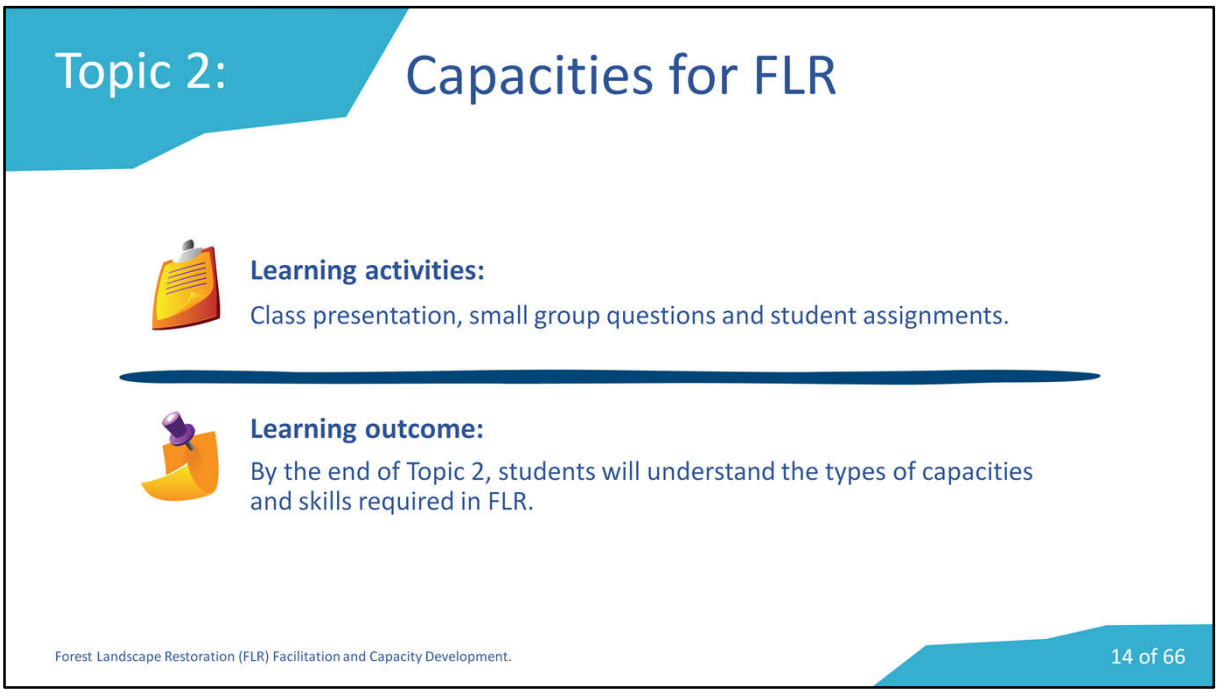
- https://youtu.be/2VqZLqyYh44

Topic 1: Small group questions

1. Has your country made any commitments under the Bonn Challenge or any of its regional offsprings?
2. How do you judge the theoretical and practical availability of land for restoration in your country?

Topic 1: Student assignments

1. Find out where the fulfilments of commitments under the Bonn Challenge stands right now!


Topic 2:
Capacities for FLR
Learning activities:
Class presentation, small group questions and student assignments.
Learning outcome:
By the end of Topic 2, students will understand the types of capacities and skills required in FLR.
Forest Landscape Restoration (FLR) Facilitation and Capacity Development.
14 of 66

Identify capacity-development needs at the individual and organizational level and propose relevant strategies to meet these needs.

- Build capacity-development programmes for relevant stakeholders to undertake planning, implementation and evaluation of FLR efforts.
- Develop networks/knowledge platforms (national/regional) between practitioners and extension services in order to disseminate good practices.
- Support the establishment and continued capacity strengthening of networks of practitioners and extension services

Topic 2.1:

2.1 Forms of Capacity Development

Forms of Capacity Development include:

- Multi-stakeholder platforms at local level,
- Technical training (e.g. Farmer Field Days)
- Field practice in tertiary education
- Awareness raising among policy makers and investors
- Mentorship programmes for FLR Facilitators

Photo: Bangladesh -- Institute of Forestry and Environmental Sciences, University of Chittagong

Participation of all stakeholders at all levels is critical to the implementation of FLR. Not all stakeholders, however, have the requisite knowledge, resources or systems in place to fully participate and commit to long-term involvement in the transition towards a future non-degrading land use providing more benefits to people and nature.

Forest Landscape Restoration (FLR) Facilitation and Capacity Development.

16 of 66

Topic 2: 2.2 System-Wide Restoration Capacities

Capacity Development

Impact

Individual Capacities
Awareness / Understanding, Knowledge/ Skills / Attitudes

Organizational Capacities
Coordination mechanisms (horizontal and vertical) / Networks / Mandates / Multi-Sectoral and Stakeholder Dialogue/ Collective Action

Enabling Environment
Governance (formal and informal)/ implicit and explicit rules / laws and policies / incentives and investments / institutional political economy

Field Implementation/Upscaling
Best land use practices and approaches based on new and indigenous knowledge, co-developed by stakeholders

Source: Adapted from Kalas et al. 2021

Forest Landscape Restoration (FLR) Facilitation and Capacity Development.

17 of 66

Topic 2: References and resources

- Patrick P. Kalas, Cora Van Oosten and Bas van der Schalie. "Unlocking Pathways for System-Wide Capacity Development in African Drylands". Global Landscapes Forum Africa Session. 2-3 June 2021.
  Available at: https://www.globallandscapesforum.org/presentation/unlocking-pathways-for-system-wide-capacity-development-in-african-drylands/
- Schweizer D. and Ghazoul J. (eds) (2021) "Forests for the future: Restoration success at landscape scale - what will it take and what have we learned?" Prince Bernhard Chair Reports (issue 1). Series editors Almond, R.E.A., Grooten, M. and Van Kuijk, M., WWF-Netherlands, Zeist and Utrecht University, Netherlands.
  Available at: https://www.uu.nl/en/news/forests-for-the-future-moving-from-paper-commitments-to-real-restoration-impact-at-landscape-scale
- Yale Environmental Leadership and Training Initative (Yale ELTI) webinar series entitled "Capacity Development for Forest Landscape Restoration".
  Available at: https://www.youtube.com/playlist?list=PLvGT0Qj12s0f9RFxlVtxGWTy8ZH7c2DXW

Forest Landscape Restoration (FLR) Facilitation and Capacity Development. 18 of 66

Identify capacity-development needs at the individual and organizational level and propose relevant strategies to meet these needs.

- Build capacity-development programmes for relevant stakeholders to undertake planning, implementation and evaluation of FLR efforts.
- Develop networks/knowledge platforms (national/regional) between practitioners and extension services in order to disseminate good practices.
- Support the establishment and continued capacity strengthening of networks of practitioners and extension services

Topic 2: References and resources

Gain a deeper understanding of the capacities needed for successful forest landscape restoration in Africa by watching this **90 minute video**:

- https://youtu.be/Ze63GKE1Edo

Forest Landscape Restoration (FLR) Facilitation and Capacity Development.

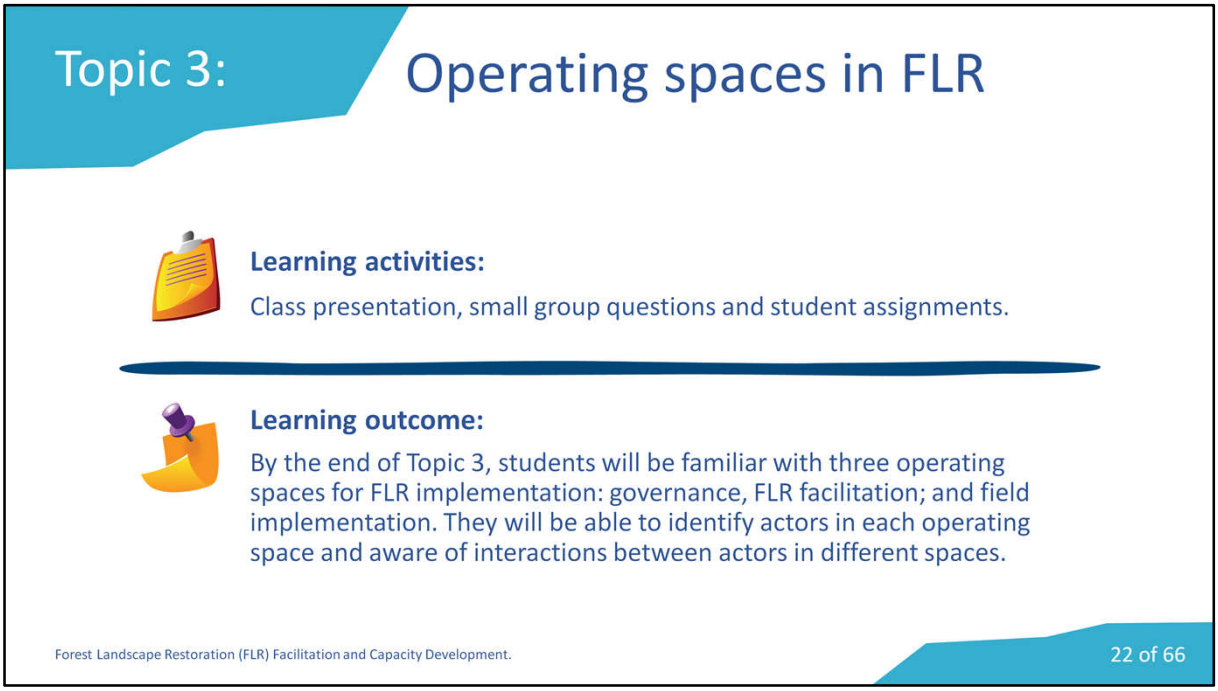
19 of 66

Topic 2: Small group questions

1. What are key capacities necessary for successful FLR in your context?
2. What is the distribution of these capacities across key stakeholders?
3. Which essential capacity gaps can you identify?
4. Are there any institutions in your country / region that conduct capacity development for FLR?

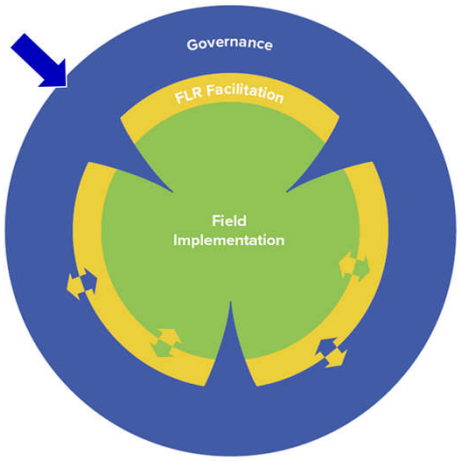
Topic 2: Student assignments

1. How can you build these capacities?
2. What forms of capacity development could be used?
3. Develop a mock capacity development plan for FLR that is suitable for your context!


Topic 3:
Operating spaces in FLR
Learning activities:
Class presentation, small group questions and student assignments.
Learning outcome:
By the end of Topic 3, students will be familiar with three operating spaces for FLR implementation: governance, FLR facilitation; and field implementation. They will be able to identify actors in each operating space and aware of interactions between actors in different spaces.
Forest Landscape Restoration (FLR) Facilitation and Capacity Development.
22 of 66

Topic: 3.1 Governance space in FLR

- Fundamental to creating the long-term enabling conditions for FLR
- Local to international levels
- Comprised of actors and institutions involved in decision-making



Source: Stanturf et al. 2020

Forest Landscape Restoration (FLR) Facilitation and Capacity Development.

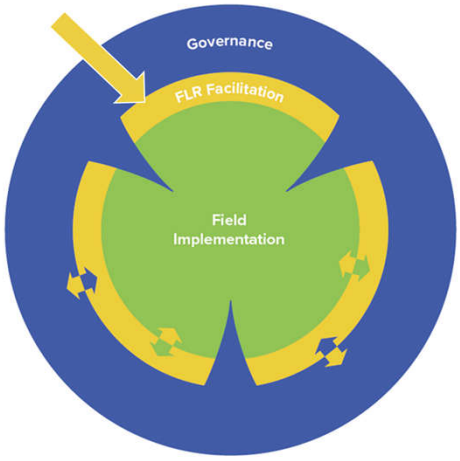
23 of 66

Developing capacities in the **governance space** is key to sensitizing policymakers for the right mix of regulations and policies that need to be in place for local actors to successfully restore land. This helps to create enabling conditions for moving towards sustainable land management practices. The governance space for FLR is fundamental to creating the long-term conditions for FLR. It extends from local through international levels and is comprised of actors and institutions involved in decision-making.

Decision-makers and institutions shape the environment for FLR initiation and implementation. This operating space (indicated in blue) extends from local, regional and national institutions and actors (both governmental and non-governmental; formal and informal) to the international level of the Bonn Challenge and potential funding sources such as the Global Environment Facility (GEF), the Green Climate Fund (GCF), or donor governments.

Topic 3: 3.2 Facilitation space in FLR

- Critical intermediary to leverage change
- FLR facilitation requires landscape leadership skills
- Mentorship programs for FLR facilitators useful



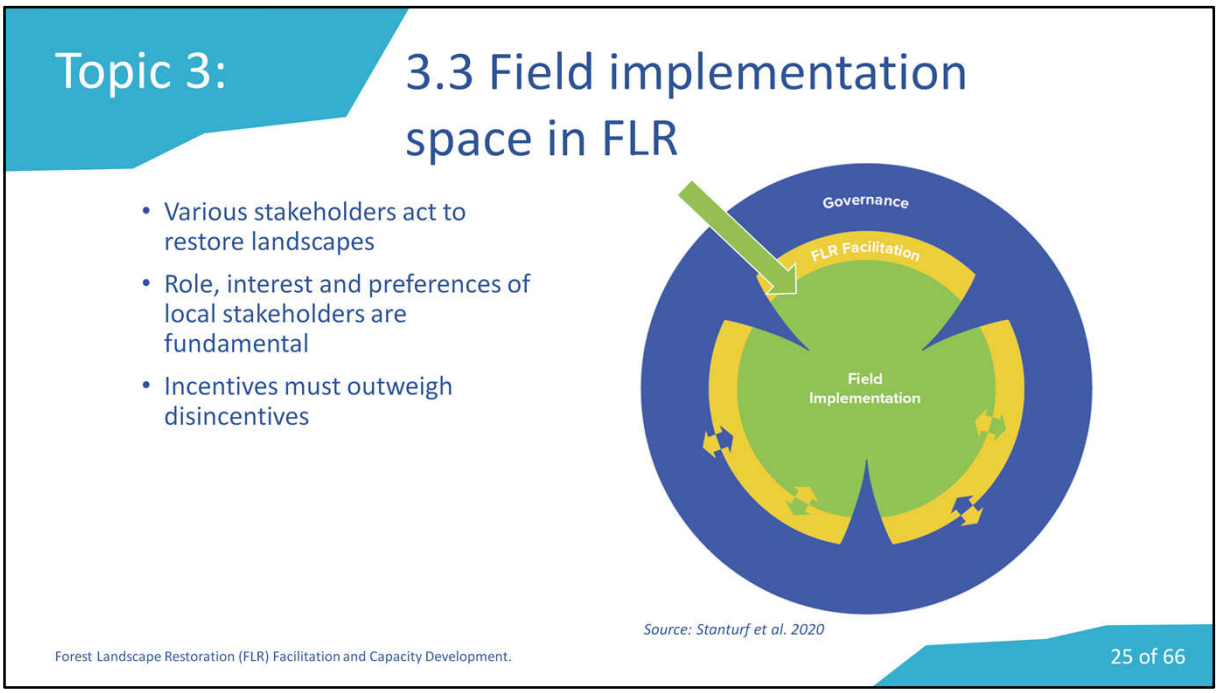
Source: Stanturf et al. 2020

Forest Landscape Restoration (FLR) Facilitation and Capacity Development.

24 of 66

Developing capacities in the **FLR facilitation space** helps to prepare FLR facilitators to assist stakeholders in organizing platforms for interaction, reconciliation of conflicting views and planning FLR activities, as well as gathering information, linking actors and monitoring progress.
FLR facilitators are working as change agents in this operating space (indicated in yellow) and may include staff of existing local governmental and non-governmental organisations, such as agricultural extension services, forest and wildlife departments, water departments, forest and agriculture plantation companies, farmers' associations/cooperatives as well as environmental non-governmental organisations (NGOs) and advocacy groups. They initiate FLR projects and assist actors in the field implementation space and governance space by applying best practices in FLR implementation such as those described in the FLR process guidelines developed by IUFRO (Stanturf et al., 2017).

The facilitation space is a critical intermediary where change agents – FLR facilitators – can leverage and multiply actions. Mentorship programs for FLR facilitators provide hands-on learning opportunities that grow confidence, competence, and connections needed to accelerate action on the ground and the shift to long term sustainable land use.



The **field implementation space** is where local communities act to restore landscapes. The role, interest and preferences of local stakeholders are fundamental to the long-term success of restoration. In this space (indicated in green) local actors are those working in, using, and benefitting from the landscape. In many landscapes, these are members of different communities that may represent different ethnicities or cultures. Governance, tenure, and power relationships may differ, even in neighbouring communities, so that lessons may be perceived differently by stakeholders. Stakeholders, even within a community, commonly differ in their interests and preferences; reaching consensus on actions to take or changes to make requires participatory, systematic procedures to reconcile conflicting interests and objectives.

The ability to share information, articulate interests, reconcile conflicting views and recognise that landscape-level decisions require compromise are fundamental capacities to be developed among participating local actors. Besides developing social skills, the FLR process also aims at learning and information sharing on ecosystem functioning, new agriculture/forest cultivation technologies and management methods, products, markets and job opportunities. Local actors participating in the FLR process obtain better insights into many aspects of their local ecosystem and social environment, learn from each other and gradually agree on restoration actions to be implemented.

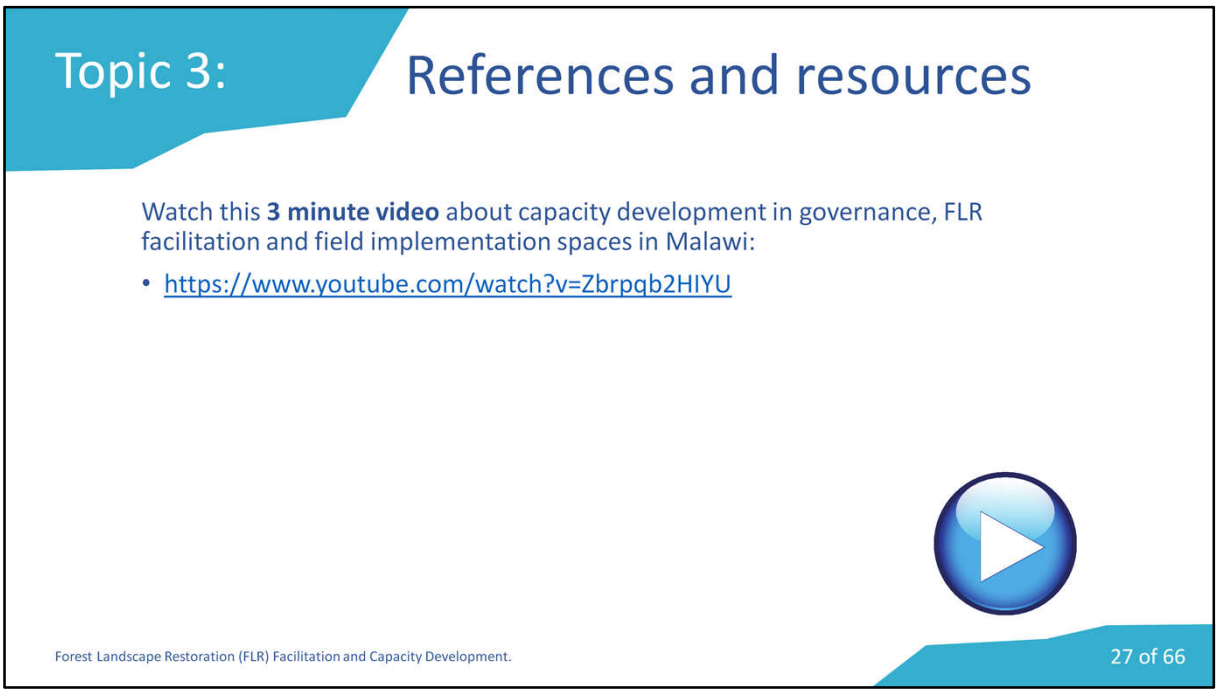
Field implementation space of FLR

- Communities, landowners and other stakeholders act to restore landscapes
- Role, interest and preferences of local stakeholders are fundamental to the long-term success of restoration
- Incentives must outweigh disincentives to ensure local buy-in

Topic 3:

References and resources

- Schweizer D. and Ghazoul J. (eds) (2021) "Forests for the future: Restoration success at landscape scale - what will it take and what have we learned?" Prince Bernhard Chair Reports (issue 1). Series editors Almond, R.E.A., Grooten, M. and Van Kuijk, M., WWF-Netherlands, Zeist and Utrecht University, Netherlands.
  Available at: https://www.uu.nl/en/news/forests-for-the-future-moving-from-paper-commitments-to-real-restoration-impact-at-landscape-scale
- Stanturf J. A., Mansourian S., Darabant A. et al. (2020). Occasional Paper No. 33 - Forest Landscape Restoration Implementation: Lessons learned from selected landscapes in Africa, Asia and Latin America, pp 63.
  Available at: https://www.iufro.org/publications/series/occasional-papers/article/2020/02/14/occasional-paper-no-33-forest-landscape-restoration-implementation-lessons-learned-from-selected/



Watch video (Duration 3 Minutes)
Dr. Steve Makungwa presents: CAPACITY BUILDING IN FOREST LANDSCAPE RESTORATION IMPLEMENTATION: A KEY TO SUCCESSFUL RESTORATION IN LILONGWE, MALAWI.
https://youtu.be/Zbrpqb2HIYU

Forest landscape restoration is basically driven by actors in three different operating spaces: governance; FLR facilitation; and field implementation. Viewing capacity needs and interventions in FLR in the framework of three operating spaces can help to better frame the overall challenge of FLR implementation. Given the diversity of actors involved in FLR, it is important to consider the interactions between these operating spaces. More specifically, exchange of information between actors in the three operating spaces and mutual learning are fundamental elements in the FLR process, eventually leading to desired changes in land management.

Topic 3:

Small group questions

Key questions to be asked for each FLR stakeholder:

1. Why interact with certain stakeholders in each of the three operating spaces? Why are they important for FLR within a defined local context? What can they contribute to the big picture?
2. How could their actions contribute to FLR? How might their individual goals be integrated with social goals? How might they be equipped with tools that help them reach their goals?

Forest Landscape Restoration (FLR) Facilitation and Capacity Development.

28 of 66

Topic 3:

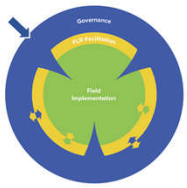
Student assignments

1. What main messages should be conveyed to exemplary actors in each of the three operating spaces?
2. How might you approach different actors in each operating space?
3. Which media, means of communication could be suitable?
4. Which type of language (formal/complicated/simple), scope and conceptualisation are relevant for engaging with them about issues relevant to their day-to-day life?

Forest Landscape Restoration (FLR) Facilitation and Capacity Development.

29 of 66

Topic 4: Governance



Learning activities:

Class presentation, small group questions and student assignments.

Learning outcome:

By the end of Topic 3, students will be able to describe how decision makers can:

- Strengthen participation and collaboration
- Incorporate incentives and reduce disincentives, and
- Strengthen political support.

Forest Landscape Restoration (FLR) Facilitation and Capacity Development. 30 of 66

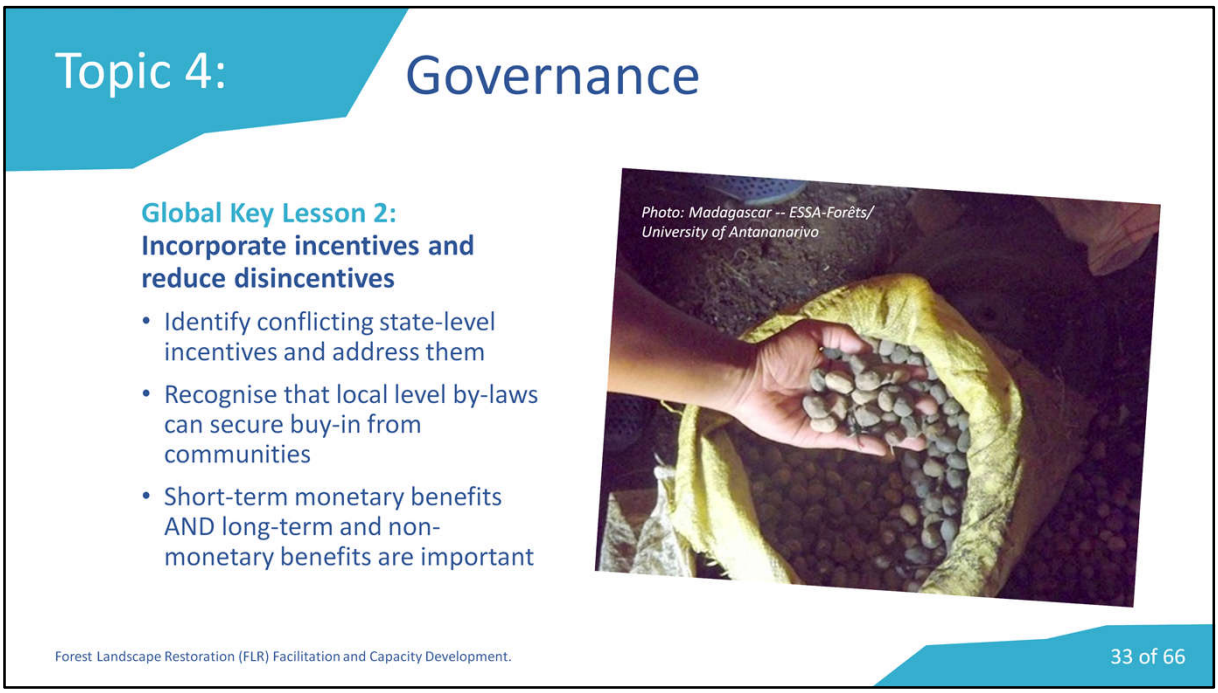
Collaboration and participation are the cornerstones of FLR as multiple stakeholders share an interest in the landscape to be restored. Engaging stakeholders to collaborate and negotiate tradeoffs and compromises, especially when restoration requires changes in land use, requires effort and skill (Jones and Dudley, 2005; Emborg et al. ,2012). For FLR to be successful, many actors at different levels must be motivated to collaborate towards joint objectives.

Global key lesson 1: Strengthen participation and collaboration

- Acknowledge and engage local leaders
- Establish and promote collaborative platforms of stakeholders with interest in the landscape
- Engage with stakeholders across multiple sectors, particularly through institutionalised stakeholder platforms
- Form strategic partnerships, to build trust among stakeholders and to define roles and areas of collaboration
- Negotiate trade-offs and compromises, especially when restoration requires changes in land use

Global Key Lesson 1: Strengthen participation and collaboration
Example: Telangana (India) State Reforestation Programme

- Robust institutional arrangements were made for implementation of the FLR programme
- State-level coordination committee provided coordination and oversight of Haritha Rakshana Committees (green protection committees) at the village level to implement restoration and monitor the maintenance and survival of the plantations



Incentives and disincentives for FLR take many forms. Direct benefits are used to motivate participation and mitigate losses. Many direct benefits are financial, however ecological and social benefits are also important. Benefits may be symbolic, such as awards to recognise FLR champions or the contributions of individuals. Improved ecological conditions resulting from FLR can be a strong incentive in addition to direct economic activities.

Global Key Lesson 2: Incorporate incentives and reduce disincentives

- Identify conflicting state-level incentives (typically lack of cross-sectoral integration) and work with relevant government bodies to address them
- Recognise that local level by-laws can be an effective way of securing buy-in from communities
- Direct, short-term monetary benefits receive the greatest attention; however, long-term and non-monetary benefits such as improved ecological conditions represent important incentives

In Guatemala the creation of an FLR Board and the incorporation of diverse stakeholders have been successful but smallholder forest owners are required to engage registered foresters to prepare the documentation and validation of restoration projects, posing a significant financial barrier. Bureaucracy and costs are a disincentive for participation. Offering technical support or subsidies to smallholders to prepare restoration plans could help to maintain participation and incorporate additional stakeholders. Active participation will be critical to achieving the strategic goals and fulfilling the Bonn Challenge and 20x20 Initiative commitments.

Global Key Lesson 2: Incorporate incentives and reduce disincentives
Example: Guatemala

- Restoration plans must be approved by a registered professional at some cost to the community
- Communities and small holders struggle with bureaucracy and costs
- No government schemes to support funding for preparation of formally required restoration plans

FLR operates at large-scale; as such, strong political support at all levels is necessary for FLR to be initiated and especially for long-term sustainability of FLR initiatives. Political supports signifies, among others, providing an enabling policy framework, ensuring alignment of policies across sectors and ministries, providing timely financial support and more generally, ensuring that the governance framework facilitates rather than hinders FLR implementation. Because landscapes rarely match jurisdictional scales, political support needs to come from the national level, but also from the local level, and requires coordination across these different administrative scales.

Global Key Lesson 3 Strengthen political support

- FLR operates at large-scale; as such, strong political support at all levels is necessary
- Secure political support for FLR as a cross-sectoral approach
- Match appropriate budget allocations with political support
- Express political commitment in favour of FLR
- Create enabling policy environment for FLR

Global Key Lesson 3: Strengthen political support
Example Telangana

- Political "champion" at highest level motivates government agencies and civil society through financing to initiate FLR activities
- Personal leadership and commitment of Chief Minister to greening of the state and setting up robust institutional arrangements ensured full cooperation by all government levels
- Regular and frequent monitoring of the restoration programme by the Chief Minister helped to quickly remove inter-sectoral roadblocks
- Political support was mobilised and expressed in statements by politicians, a tree planting campaign, and with planting ceremonies.

Topic 4: References and resources

- Emborg, J., Walker, G., Daniels, S., (2012). "Forest landscape restoration decision-making and conflict management: applying discourse-based approaches". In: Stanturf, J., Lamb, D., Madsen, P. (Eds.), Forest Landscape Restoration. Springer, Dordrecht, pp. 131–153.
- Djenontin I.N.S., Foli S. and Zulu L.C. (2018). "Revisiting the Factors Shaping Outcomes for Forest and Landscape Restoration in Sub-Saharan Africa: A Way Forward for Policy, Practice and Research". Sustainability 2018, 10, 906. DOI: 10.3390/su10040906.
- Höhl et al. (2020). "Forest Landscape Restoration—What Generates Failure and Success?". Available at: https://www.mdpi.com/1999-4907/11/9/938.
- Jones, S., Dudley, N., (2005). "Negotiations and conflict management. Forest Restoration in Landscapes". Springer, pp. 126–135.
- Mansourian S. (2020). "Enabling factors to scale up forest landscape restoration: the roles of governance and economics". Available at: https://wwf.panda.org/?1092966/Local-community-engagement-strong-policy-signals-and-long-term-financing-key-ingredients-for-forest-restoration

Topic 4: References and resources

See this **course:**

- Global Landscapes Forum, Landscape Academy course "Landscape Governance": https://academy.globallandscapesforum.org/

Watch these **videos** and **interviews**:

- Guatemala (Reduce disincentives): https://youtu.be/14EDCkZwiv8
- India (Strong political support): https://youtu.be/ZvqzoMJbifw
- Madagascar (Tenure): https://youtu.be/HBqLLUmVArg

Forest Landscape Restoration (FLR) Facilitation and Capacity Development. 38 of 66

Topic 4: Small group questions

1. What are the priorities?
2. Which policies are supporting the enabling environment?
3. How can you locate and secure the buy-in of political "champions" for FLR in your context?
4. Which obstacles exist?
5. Which capacities could be developed to address the needs?

Forest Landscape Restoration (FLR) Facilitation and Capacity Development.

39 of 66

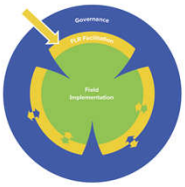
Topic 4: Student assignments

1. What could be some strategies to turn governance challenges into opportunities in your local context?
2. Describe how decision makers can:
   - Strengthen participation and collaboration
   - Incorporate incentives and reduce disincentives, and
   - Strengthen political support.

Forest Landscape Restoration (FLR) Facilitation and Capacity Development.

40 of 66

Topic 5: Field implementation



Learning activities:

Class presentation, small group questions and student assignments.

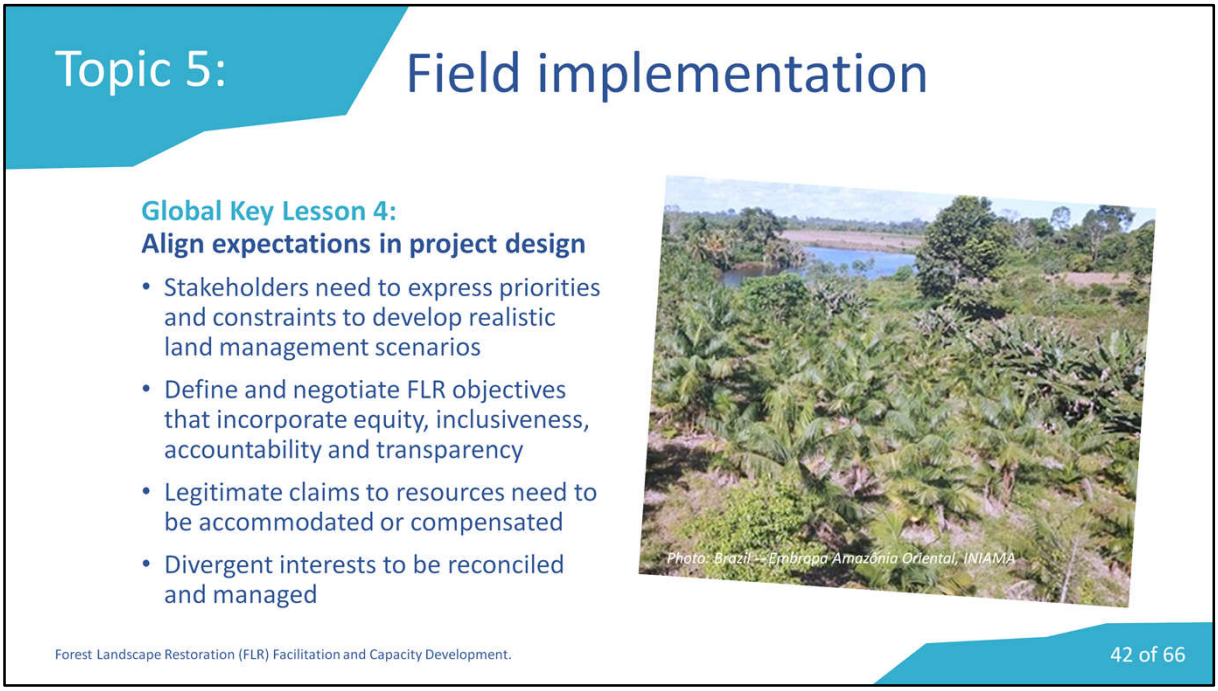
Learning outcome:

By the end of Topic 5, students will be able to describe how local actors can:

- Align expectations in project design
- Address threats
- Utilise appropriate knowledge and methods

Forest Landscape Restoration (FLR) Facilitation and Capacity Development.

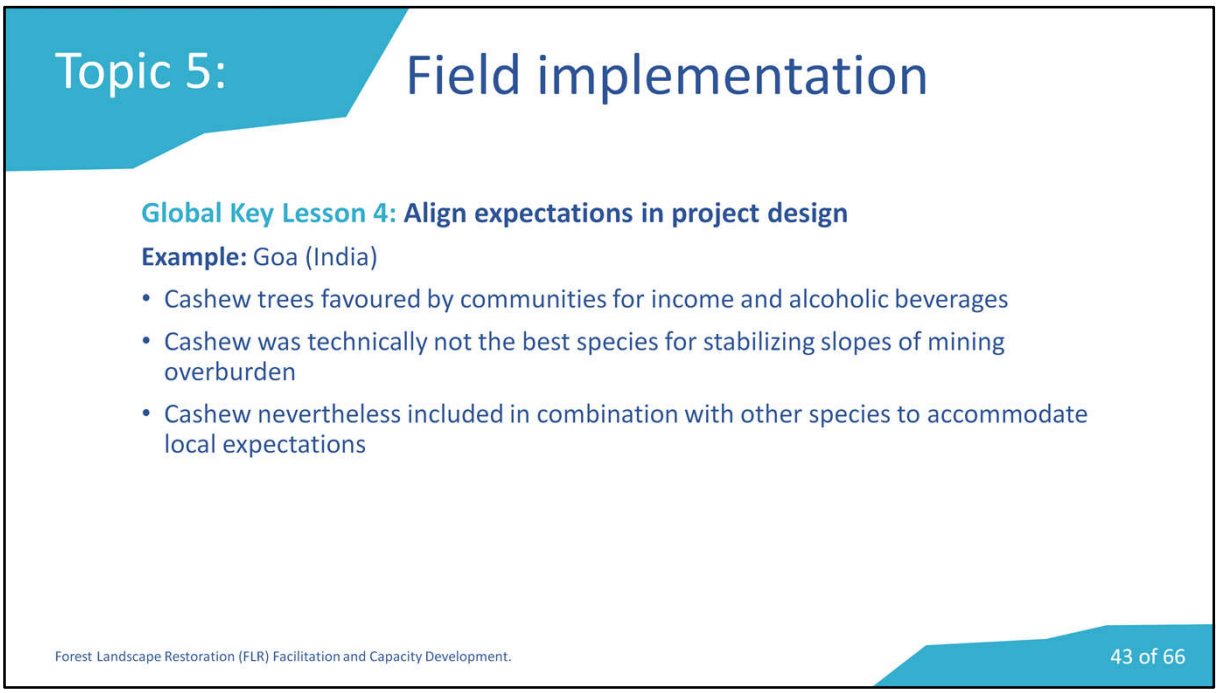
41 of 66



Different stakeholders within landscapes will have different expectations concerning their use of the land and forests, benefits that they can derive and crucially, concerning the purpose of restoration. Aligning and managing expectations in the design and implementation of an FLR project must balance competing interests and differing priorities for livelihoods versus biodiversity (Maron et al. 2021). Projects must be designed from a comprehensive perspective, addressing the challenges facing local communities embedded in a landscape approach, while at the same time aligning with national goals and commitments.

Global Key Lesson 4: Align expectations in project design

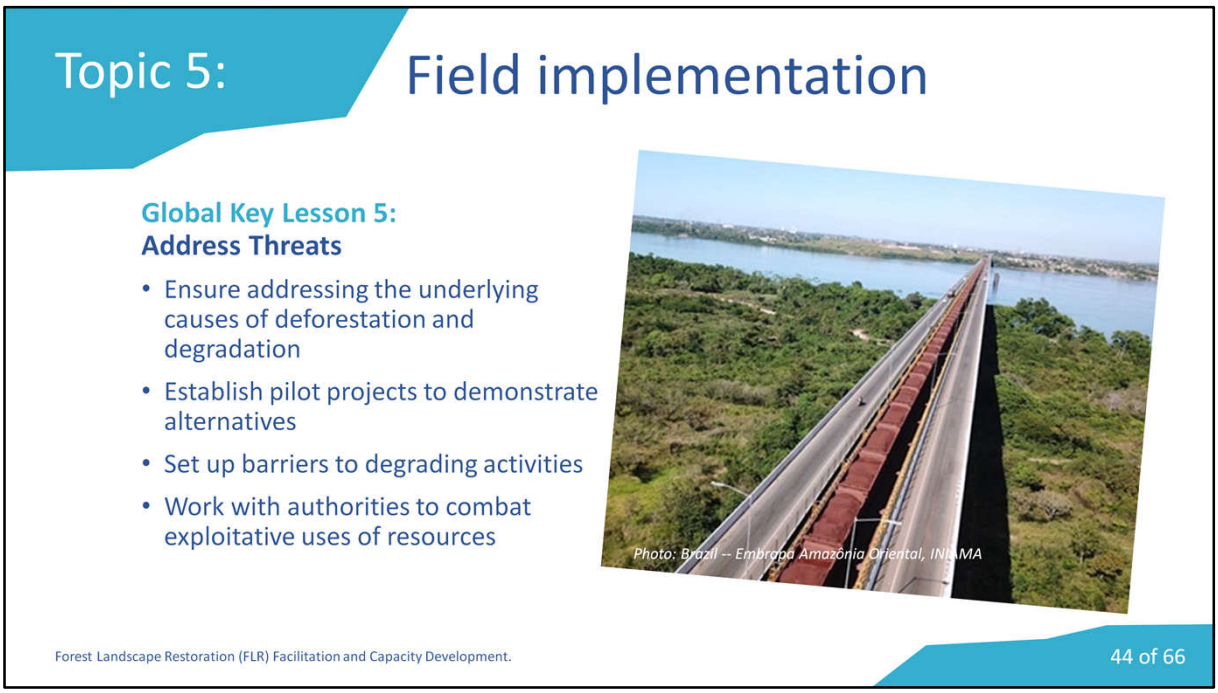
- Wide range of stakeholders need to express priorities and constraints to develop realistic future land management scenarios
- Define and negotiate FLR objectives that incorporates equity (including gender), inclusiveness (including of vulnerable and disadvantaged groups), accountability and transparency
- Legitimate claims to resources need to be considered, accommodated or compensated
- Divergent interests to be reconciled and managed through participatory land use planning and conflict management tools



Sometimes, meeting local expectations for livelihoods requires diverging from an "optimal" technical design. For example, in Goa (India), cashew trees were planted even though cashew was technically not the best species for stabilising slopes of mining overburden. Neighbouring communities wanted as many cashew trees as possible included in the project design because of the income they derived from *feni*, a locally brewed liquor using cashew fruit. The project planners acceded to this demand and included cashew along with other species more suitable for mine reclamation such as *Acacia spp*.

Global Key Lesson 4: Align expectations in project design
Example Goa (India)

- Cashew trees were favoured by communities because of the income they derived from feni, a locally brewed liquor using cashew fruit
- Cashew was technically not the best species for stabilizing slopes of mining overburden
- Cashew nevertheless included in combination with other species to accommodate local expectations



Successful FLR requires addressing the underlying causes of deforestation and degradation. Commercial agriculture is the most important proximate driver of deforestation and forest degradation on all continents, but particularly in Latin America. Timber extraction is another important driver, particularly in Latin America and Southeast Asia, while charcoal production has a similar impact in Africa. Ongoing degradation is difficult to overcome but direct threats may actually be easier to reverse in the short-term if underlying threats are absent.

Global Key Lesson 5: Address Threats

- Ensure addressing the underlying causes of deforestation and degradation
- Establish pilot projects to demonstrate the benefits of alternatives to degrading practices
- Help set up temporary or permanent barriers to degrading activities such as grazing, illegal harvesting, unsustainable use of non-timber forest products (NTFPs), etc.
- Work with authorities to combat illegal logging, arson fires, and other exploitative uses of resources

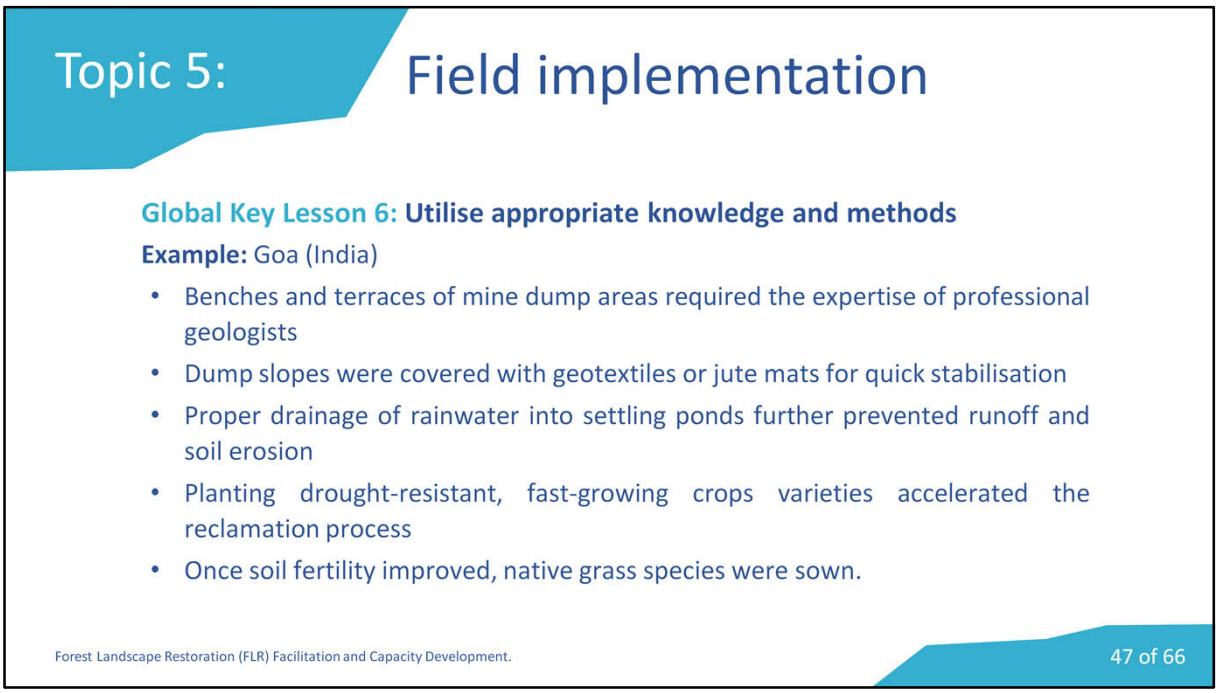
Global Key Lesson 5: Address Threats
Example: Lower Mequi Landscape, Ethiopia

- Grazing exclusion agreements with local communities proved essential for the success of the restoration activities
- Communities reached internal agreements to keep restored areas off limits for grazing and additionally hired local guards who ensured that no cattle trespassed into restored areas
- Grass was used as fodder by the local community members in a cut-and-carry system

There is an ever-growing resource of western knowledge available for forest landscape restoration. At the same time, traditional knowledge related to forests and restoration, handed down from generation to generation, continues to be relevant, particularly in tropical regions (Lake et al., 2018). Combining both in many cases can provide a more comprehensive approach, that is grounded in local practice and therefore more likely to be accepted and applied in the long term.

Global Key Lesson 6: Utilise appropriate knowledge and methods

- Ensure that their indigenous and traditional knowledge related to FLR is shared and appropriately utilised in the design and implementation of FLR interventions
- In many cases, combining both western and traditional knowledge can provide a more comprehensive approach, that is grounded in local practice and therefore more likely to be accepted and applied in the long term



Subtopic 4.3 Utilise appropriate knowledge and methods
Example: Goa (India)

- Benches and terraces of mine dump areas required the expertise of professional geologists
- Dump slopes were covered with geotextiles or jute mats for quick stabilisation and to prevent soil erosion and gully formation
- Proper drainage of rainwater into settling ponds further prevented runoff and soil erosion
- Planting drought-resistant, fast-growing leguminous crop varieties accelerated the reclamation process
- Once soil fertility improved, native grass species

Topic 5: References and resources

- DeFries, R.S., Rudel, T., Uriarte, M., Hansen, M., (2010). "Deforestation driven by urban population growth and agricultural trade in the twenty-first century". Nature Geoscience 3, 178–181.
- Lake, F., Parrotta, J., Giardina, C., Hunt-Davidson, I., & Uprety, Y. (2018). "Integration of Traditional and Western knowledge in forest landscape restoration". In: Forest Landscape Restoration, (S. Mansourian and J. Parrotta, Eds.) pp 198–226. Routledge, London.
- Maron, M., Hobbs, R.J., Moilanen, A., Matthews, J.W., Christie, K., Gardner, T.A., Keith, D.A., Lindenmayer, D.B., McAlpine, C.A., (2012). "Faustian bargains? Restoration realities in the context of biodiversity offset policies". Biological Conservation 155, 141–148.

Topic 5: References and resources

Watch these **videos**:

- Brazil (Find common understanding): https://youtu.be/Z3AYdtJwIkM
- Ethiopia (match plans with budget and capacity) https://youtu.be/6e0gzjGBhSw
- Peru (start with local priorities): https://youtu.be/T152nbRYGcM

Forest Landscape Restoration (FLR) Facilitation and Capacity Development.

49 of 66

Topic 5: Small group questions

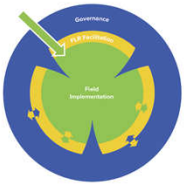
1. Which stakeholders may raise unrealistic expectations towards FLR in your landscape and how can you deal with this?
2. What underlying drivers and main threats do you need to address for the success of FLR in your landscape?
3. What key knowledge and technologies are essential for successful FLR in your context?

Forest Landscape Restoration (FLR) Facilitation and Capacity Development. 50 of 66

Topic 5: Student assignments

1. What could be some strategies to turn field implementation challenges into opportunities in your local context?
2. Describe how local actors can:
   - Align expectations in project design
   - Address threats
   - Utilise appropriate knowledge and methods

Topic 6: FLR facilitation



Learning activities:

Class presentation, small group questions and student assignments.

Learning outcome:

By the end of Topic 6, students will have be able to describe how FLR facilitators can:

- Improve communication
- Consider spatial and time scales
- Include monitoring

Effective communication is a key element of successful multi-stakeholder processes. Communication needs to capture both, internal communication between the various stakeholders engaged in the process, as well as external communication to the general public. Communication also entails the pathways and communication products chosen to deliver key messages. Communication cannot be implemented through a one-size-fits-all approach but requires tailor-made pathways, tools, and substantial financial resources. Effectively communicating FLR also needs to ensure that processes are thoroughly documented; lessons learned are distilled and disseminated.

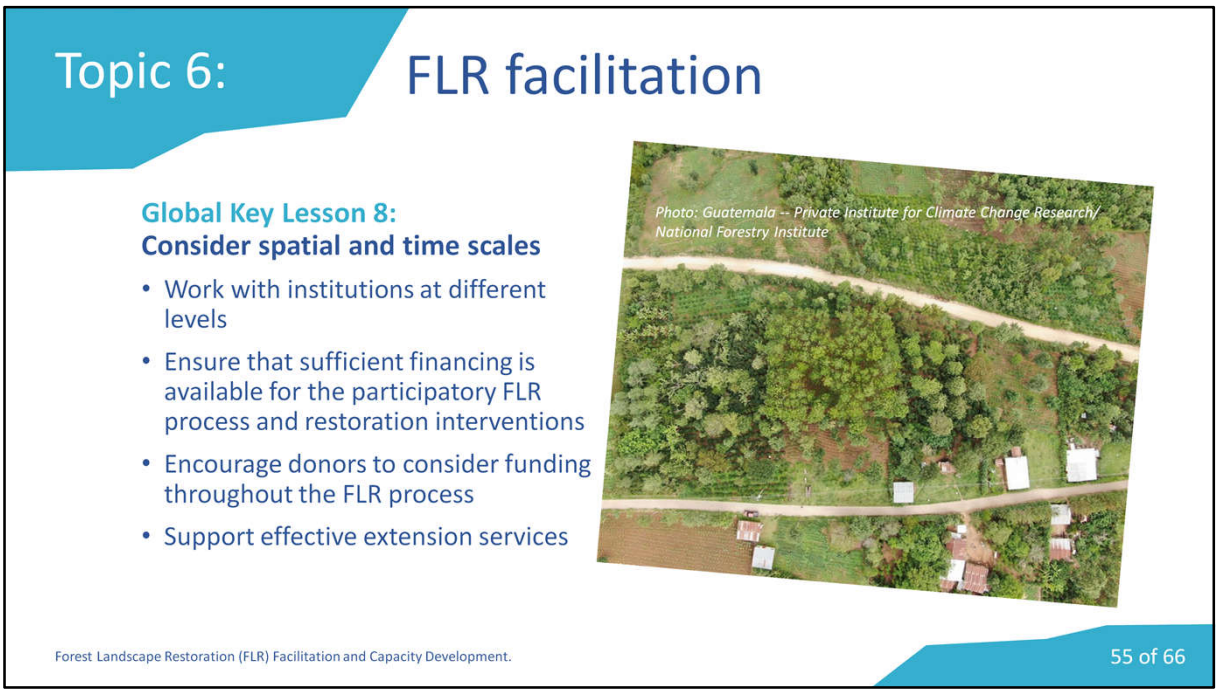
Global Key Lesson 7: Improve communication

- Effective communication is a key element of successful multi-stakeholder processes and should be considered in planning and budgeting from the start, and continued throughout the FLR process
  - shape a communication strategy that identifies the range of stakeholders, assesses their interest and power, and devises specific key messages to be communicated to them.
  - identify the communication mix, which is the range of communication products used and the frequency and timing of their utilisation.
- Develop communication products that are appropriate to the target

audiences and carry the key messages that should reach them
- Utilise existing traditional communication channels, enriching them with new communication pathways and products
- Use intensive awareness raising programmes to orient local communities towards restoration and defuse potential conflicts
- Use local languages for communication

Global Key Lesson 7: Improve communication
Example: Ghana

- Relying on established traditional communication channels proved to be an asset for FLR in Ghana
- Stakeholder-driven communication process involved traditional leaders
- Communication with and through traditional leaders ensured high level of participation and ultimately the success of the restoration project.

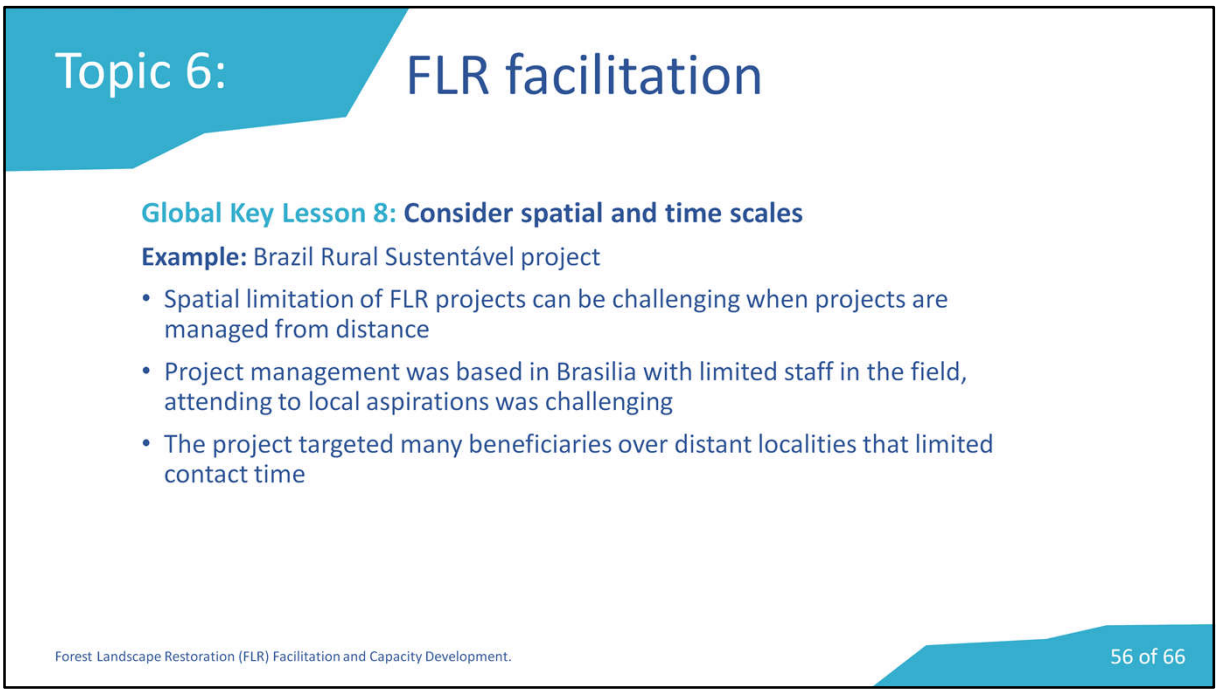


Forest landscape restoration is a long-term process occurring at multiple spatial scales. Although the Bonn Challenge commitments run through 2030, restoration will require even longer in order to develop fully functioning landscapes. Spatial scale can be an issue; projects may be too small to be effective or too large to be manageable. Scaling up to landscape-level may require more planting material than is locally available, requiring development of nursery facilities, seed collection, etc. (Stanturf et al., 2017). Effective collaboration across administrative scales is important and frequently requires improvements. Impacts of decisions taken at one level (e.g., national) can be negative at another level (e.g., local village). FLR facilitators interact with frequently with actors in the governance and field implementation spaces to align expectations, match budgets and capacities, and find solutions across different spatial and time scales.

Global Key Lesson 8: Consider spatial and time scales

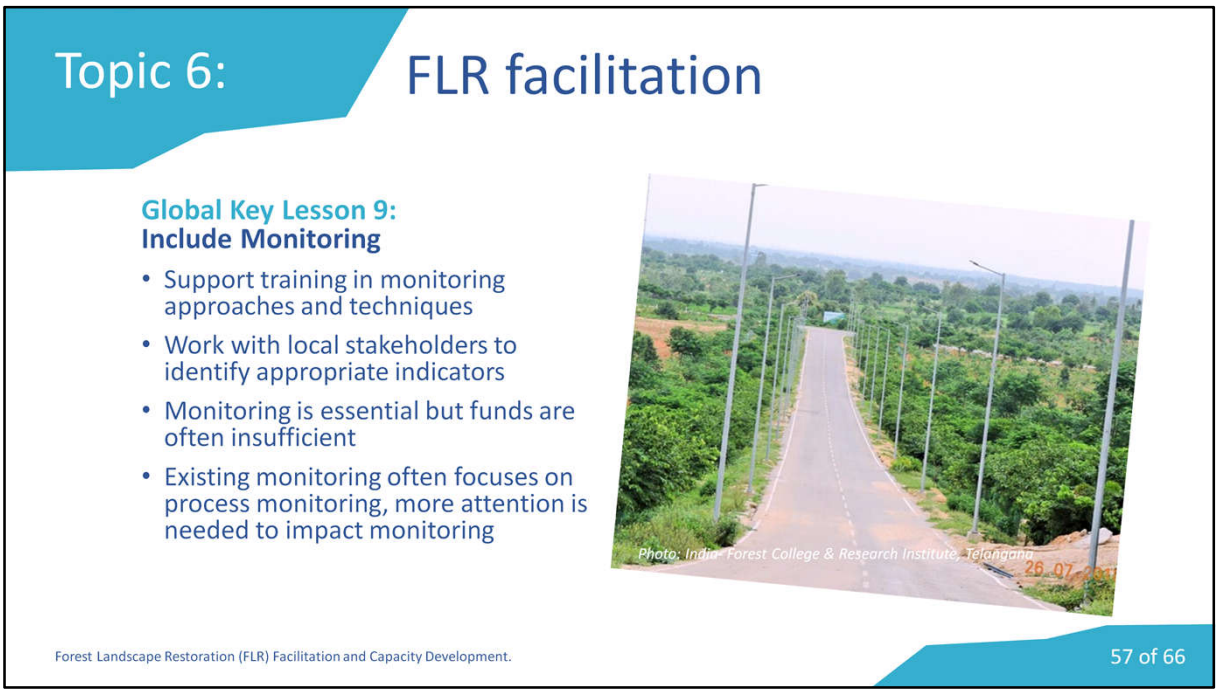
- Work with institutions at different levels to implement long-term FLR processes in specific landscapes
- Ensure that sufficient financing is available for both the participatory FLR process and restoration interventions in the field
- Encourage donors to consider funding not only the set-up phase of FLR projects but also the management and maintenance phases for the longer term

- Support extension workers to effectively reach their target audiences, especially in difficult local contexts



Global Key Lesson 8: Consider spatial and time scales
Example: Brazil Rural Sustentável project

- spatial limitation of FLR projects can be challenging when projects are managed by an institution in the distant capital
- Project management was based in Brasilia with limited staff in the field, attending to local aspirations was challenging
- The project targeted a high number of beneficiaries spread over many distant localities that limited contact time between trainers, livelihood experts and participants



Monitoring short-term and long-term outcomes is essential for successful FLR, but too often, insufficient funds are dedicated to monitoring. Because FLR is a long-term process, success may be apparent only decades following the initial interventions thus long term monitoring is essential. Often process monitoring is implemented to ensure that project actions are carried out as financed, but more attention is needed to include social and cultural effects (Pandit et al., 2020).

Global Key Lesson 9: Include Monitoring

- Support training in monitoring approaches and techniques
- Work with local stakeholders to identify appropriate indicators to monitor
- Monitoring short-term and long-term outcomes is essential for successful FLR, but too often, insufficient funds are dedicated to monitoring
- Existing monitoring often focuses on process monitoring to ensure that project actions are carried out as financed, but more attention is needed to include social and cultural effects

Topic 6: FLR facilitation

Global Key Lesson 9: Include Monitoring

Example: Chittagong Hills, Bangladesh

- Externally funded plantation projects were monitored by IUCN and a consulting firm
- After the implementation phase, Forest Management Divisions took over monitoring responsibilities
- Village-level monitoring by the panchayat heads and other public representatives assessed survival percentage and work quality
- Participatory monitoring data were collected through monthly and annual meetings with the beneficiaries
- Public participation in monitoring was instituted by constituting Green Brigades, which included many students, to monitor plantation survival
- A tool was developed for periodic assessment of the participating community-based organisations

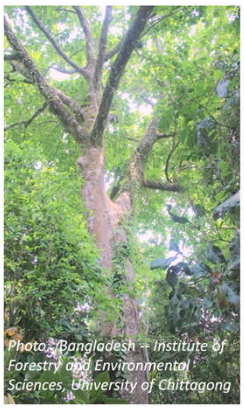


Photo: Bangladesh – Institute of Forestry and Environmental Sciences, University of Chittagong

Forest Landscape Restoration (FLR) Facilitation and Capacity Development. 58 of 66

Global Key Lesson 9: Include Monitoring
Example: Chittagong Hills, Bangladesh

- Externally funded plantations projects were monitored by IUCN and a consulting firm that was assigned the task of providing quarterly monitoring reports and a completion report at the end of the project
- After the implementation phase, Forest Management Divisions took over monitoring responsibilities
- Village-level monitoring by the panchayat heads and other public representatives assessed survival percentage and work quality
- Participatory monitoring data were collected through monthly and annual meetings with the beneficiaries
- Public participation in monitoring was instituted by constituting Green Brigades, which included many students, to monitor plantation survival
- A tool was developed for periodic assessment of strengths and weaknesses of the participating community-based organisations based on measurable indicators related to their legal status, functional dynamism, financial management, organisational management, gender equity, and assets

Topic 6: References and resources

- GLF Landscape Academy at https://academy.globallandscapesforum.org/
- GLFx is a global community by the Global Landscapes Forum to enable and accelerate action towards more sustainable landscapes. Members can join independently organized chapters that meet locally to take action. They can also join online communities of practice (CoPs) to share knowledge and learnings.
- Knowledge Base of the Forest and Landscape Restoration Mechanism (FLRM) http://www.fao.org/in-action/forest-landscape-restoration-mechanism/knowledge-base/en
- Pandit, R., Parrotta, J.A., Chaudhary, A.K., Karlen, D.L., Vieira, D.L.M., Anker, Y., Chen, R., Morris, J., Harris, J., Ntshotsho, P., (2020). "A framework to evaluate land degradation and restoration responses for improved planning and decision making". Ecosystems and People 16, 1–18.
- Stanturf, J., Mansourian, S., Kleine, M. (Eds.), (2017). "Implementing forest landscape restoration, a practitioner's guide". International Union of Forest Research Organizations, Vienna, Austria

Forest Landscape Restoration (FLR) Facilitation and Capacity Development. 59 of 66

Topic 6: References and resources

Watch these **videos**:

- Ghana (communicate to motivate and engage): https://youtu.be/1kcVIDEN31Q
- Bangladesh (share the benefits): https://youtu.be/0dGaHg5Eiog

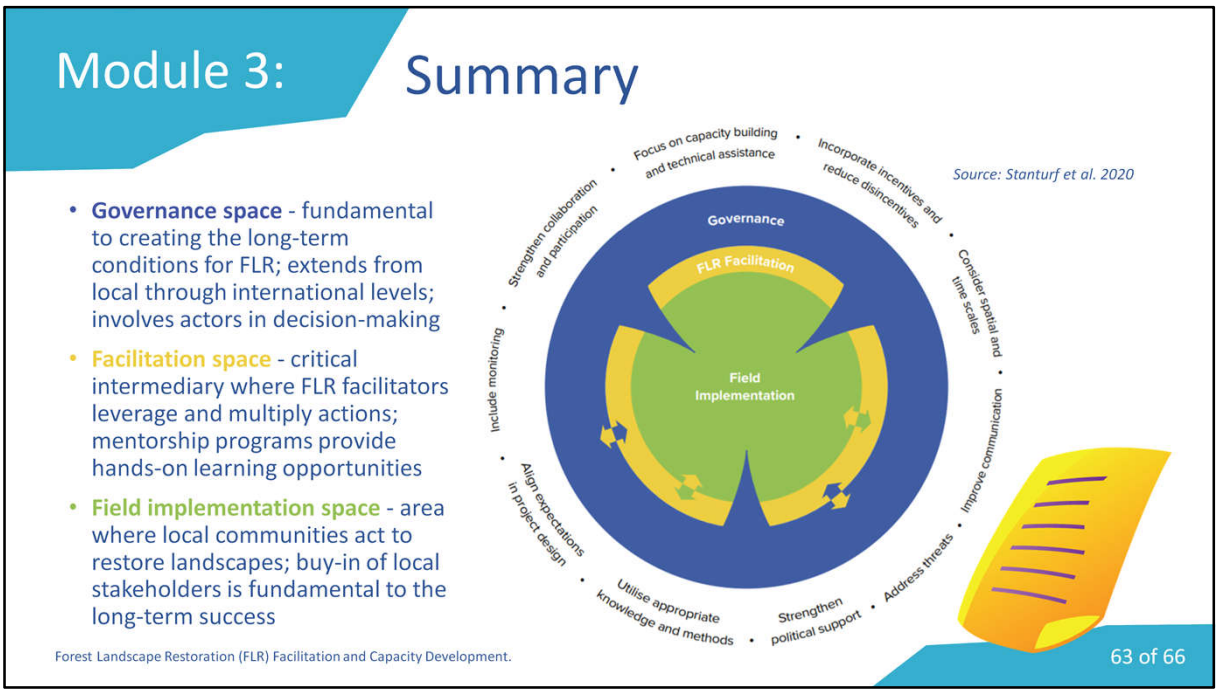
Forest Landscape Restoration (FLR) Facilitation and Capacity Development. 60 of 66

Topic 5: Small group questions

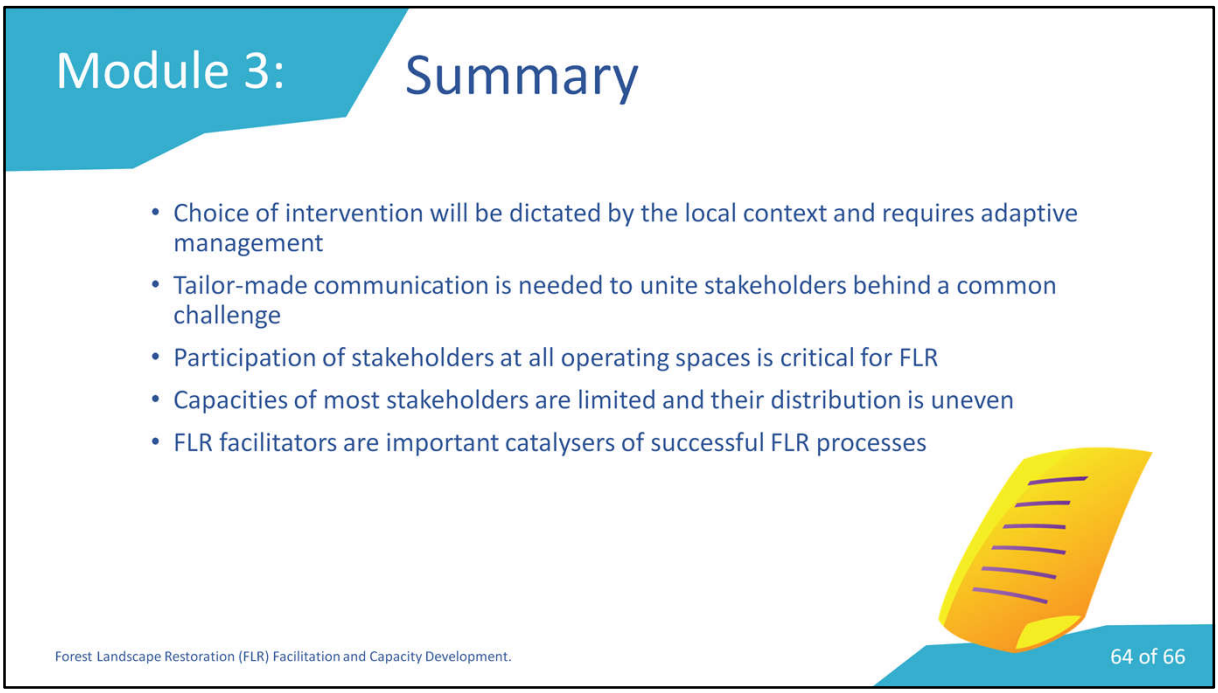
1. What steps can an FLR facilitator take to ensure good communication throughout a project?
2. Why are spatial and times scales important to consider throughout the FLR process?
3. How can an FLR facilitator help to overcome common weaknesses of monitoring efforts?
4. Give an example of how monitoring data can help to influence management decisions.

Topic 5: Student assignments

1. What could be some strategies to turn FLR facilitation challenges into opportunities in your local context?
2. Describe how FLR facilitators can:
   - Improve communication
   - Consider spatial and time scales
   - Include monitoring



- The **governance space** for FLR is fundamental to creating the long-term conditions for FLR. It extends from local through international levels and is comprised of actors and institutions involved in decision-making
- The **facilitation space** is a critical intermediary where change agents – FLR facilitators – can leverage and multiply actions. Mentorship programs for FLR facilitators provide hands-on learning opportunities that grow confidence, competence, and connections needed to accelerate action on the ground and shift to long-term sustainable land use
- The **field implementation space** is where local communities act to restore landscapes. The role, interest and preferences of local stakeholders are fundamental to the long-term success of restoration



- Choice of intervention will be dictated by the local context and requires adaptive management to achieve and maintain more resilient and sustainable landscapes in the long-term
- Tailor-made communication is needed to bring people from different backgrounds together to address a common challenge
- Participation of stakeholders at all operating spaces is critical for FLR
- Capacities of most stakeholders are limited and their distribution is uneven
- Not all stakeholders need to have all required capacities
- FLR facilitators are key for institutional and individual capacity development and the amalgamation of capacities across stakeholders for optimal FLR results

Module 3: References

- Djenontin I.N.S., Foli S. and Zulu L.C. (2018). "Revisiting the Factors Shaping Outcomes for Forest and Landscape Restoration in Sub-Saharan Africa: A Way Forward for Policy, Practice and Research". Sustainability 2018, 10, 906. DOI: 10.3390/su10040906.
- Djenontin I.N.S., Zulu L.C. and Etongo D. (2020). "Ultimately, What is Forest Landscape Restoration in Practice? Embodiments in Sub-Saharan Africa and Implications for Future Design". Available at: https://www.springerprofessional.de/en/ultimately-what-is-forest-landscape-restoration-in-practice-embo/18395760
- Höhl et al. (2020). "Forest Landscape Restoration—What Generates Failure and Success? Results of IUFRO TF survey and insights from Africa". Available at: https://www.mdpi.com/1999-4907/11/9/938
- Mansourian S. (2020). "Enabling factors to scale up forest landscape restoration: the roles of governance and economics". Available at: https://wwf.panda.org/?1092966/Local-community-engagement-strong-policy-signals-and-long-term-financing-key-ingredients-for-forest-restoration
- Schweizer D., Kuik M. and Ghazoul J. (2021). "Perceptions from non-governmental actors on forest and landscape restoration, challenges and strategies for successful implementation across Asia, Africa and Latin America". Initiative 20x20. Journal of Environmental Management, Volume 286, 112251. Available at: https://initiative20x20.org/publications/perceptions-non-governmental-actors-forest-and-landscape-restoration-challenges-and
- Stanturf J.A., Kleine M., Mansourian S. et al. (2019). "Implementing forest landscape restoration under the Bonn Challenge: a systematic approach". Annals of Forest Science 76, 50. DOI: 10.1007/s13595-019-0833-z.
- Stanturf J.A., Kleine M., Mansourian S. et al. (2017/2019/2020). "Implementing Forest Landscape Restoration: A Practitioner's Guide" (EN, FR, SP). Available at: https://www.iufro.org/science/special/spdc/netw/flr/flr/pract-guide/
- Stanturf J. A., Mansourian S., Darabant A. et al. (2020). Occasional Paper No. 33 – "Forest Landscape Restoration Implementation: Lessons learned from selected landscapes in Africa, Asia and Latin America", pp 63. Available at: https://www.iufro.org/publications/series/occasional-papers/article/2020/02/14/occasional-paper-no-33-forest-landscape-restoration-implementation-lessons-learned-from-selected/

Module 3: Credits

Module 3 was developed for ITTO and IUFRO under the GEF-approved project "Fostering Partnerships to Build Coherence and Support for FLR", which supports the Collaborative Partnership on Forests (CPF) Joint Initiative on FLR.

The following institutions and people collaborated on this module:

- **Institutions:** International Union of Forest Research Organizations (IUFRO)
- **Contributors:** Dr. Andras Darabant, Janice Burns (MSc.), Prof. Dr. John A. Stanturf
- **Layout supporter:** Shona Smith
- **Reviewer:** Dr. Michael Kleine

Suggested citation: ITTO-IUFRO FLR learning modules (2021)

IUFRO Interconnecting Forests, Science and People

ITTO

gef

66 of 66