



Global Forest Coalition reflections on the post-2020 Global Biodiversity Framework



GFC is a global coalition of 118 Indigenous Peoples' Organizations, women's groups and NGOs from 70 different countries.



The **mission** of the Global Forest Coalition is to advocate for the conservation and restoration of forest ecosystems, through defending and promoting respect for the rights, territories, traditional knowledge and sustainable livelihoods of the Indigenous Peoples, local communities and women that co-exist with them.



The GBF should recognize and defend the conservation efforts of Rightsholders to halt Biodiversity loss



- Forests, and other ecosystems, were perfectly capable of managing themselves for millions of years, they do not need human management.
- They need effective and equitable governance, to halt destruction.
- Indigenous Peoples territories account for 37% of all remaining natural lands across the Earth
- The current GBF must recognise the role and rights of IPLCs and women, and their governance systems, to halt biodiversity loss
- Human rights-based approaches should be integrated throughout the GBF, and the term “management” should be replaced by the term “equitable, rights-based and gender-just governance”



We also need a self-standing target on gender justice



Review of the implementation of the Aichi targets has shown that protected areas are not very effective as an instrument to address the root causes of biodiversity loss.

- Their additionality is often questionable
- They cannot protect areas against climate change
- They are associated with serious human rights violations
- Governments have already committed in SDG 15.2 to protect 100% of forests against deforestation and forest degradation by 2020 – a target of 30% by 2030 would be a massive regression.



The Community Conservation Resilience Initiative concluded that Indigenous Peoples territories and Community Conserved Areas are more equitable, gender just, sustainable, effective and resilient than protected areas – but still often ignored. We need a target calling for 100% rights-based, gender just, equitably governed conserved areas, with explicit and appropriate recognition of the indispensable role Indigenous territories and community conserved areas play in halting biodiversity loss.



The GBF should clearly acknowledge the impacts of industrial meat and feedstock production, industrial monocultures and extractive industries on biodiversity loss. It should call for dietary change and reject destructive solutions to climate change like bioenergy and large-scale tree plantations.



MENU ▾

nature

Subscribe

NEWS • 08 AUGUST 2019 • CORRECTION 08 AUGUST 2019, UPDATE 08 AUGUST 2019, CORRECTION 12 AUGUST 2019

Eat less meat: UN climate-change report calls for change to human diet

The report on global land use and agriculture comes amid accelerating deforestation in the Amazon.

Quirin Schiermeier



 PDF version

RELATED ARTICLES

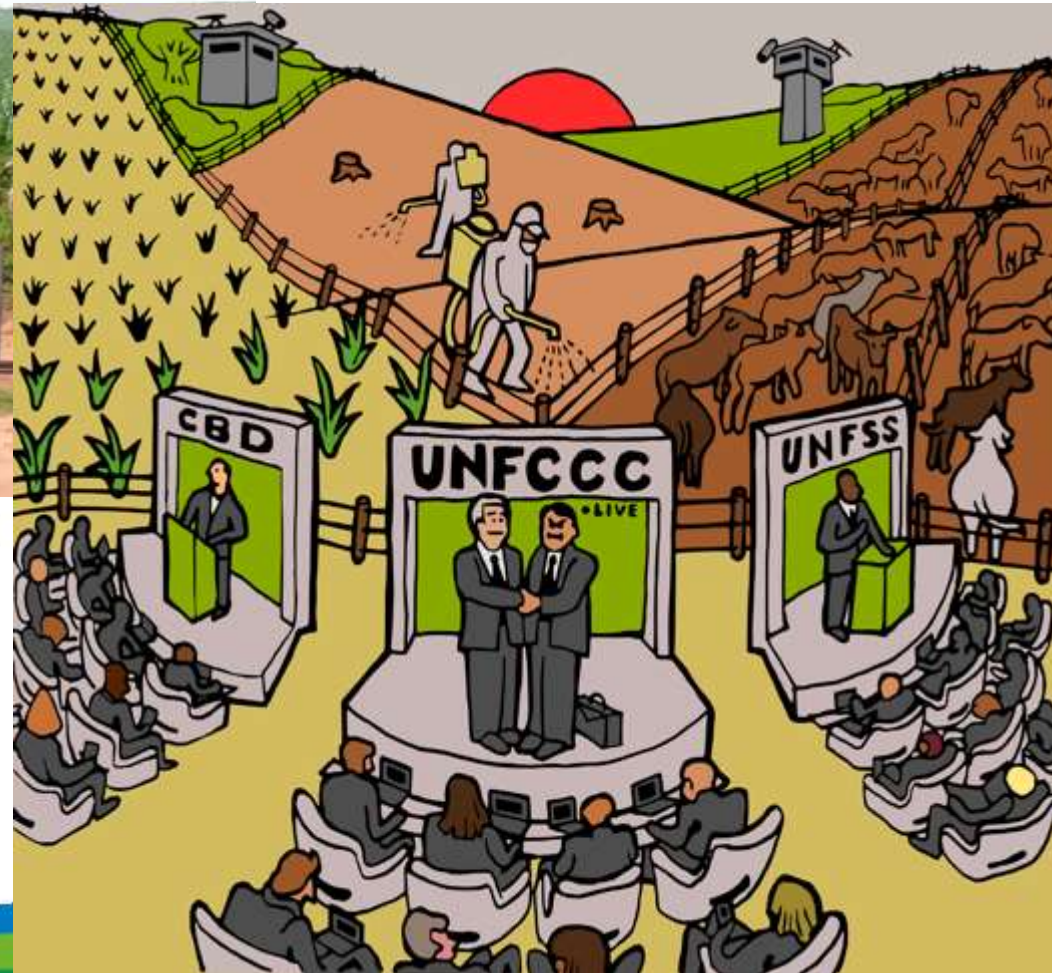
The main root cause of biodiversity loss is that most resources are invested in biodiversity destruction, rather than conservation



- Deforestation and other biodiversity loss is primarily caused by destructive human activities. Between 4 and 6 trillion USD of private and public investments and 260 billion USD of perverse incentives finance these destructive activities.
- The GBF should include a binding commitment to align all human activities and financial flows with the CBD and its objectives and commitments
- And a really strong and progressive target on redirecting perverse incentives.
- Effective implementation of these targets is only possible if the dependency of public institutions on private sector finance and thus private sector economic interests is addressed.



This also requires challenging and reversing the corporate capture of national and international policy-making. Self-regulation of producers and consumers as currently proposed is unacceptable.



The increasing reliance on private sector financing and market-based approaches is undermining public governance as it creates financial dependencies and conflicts of interests.

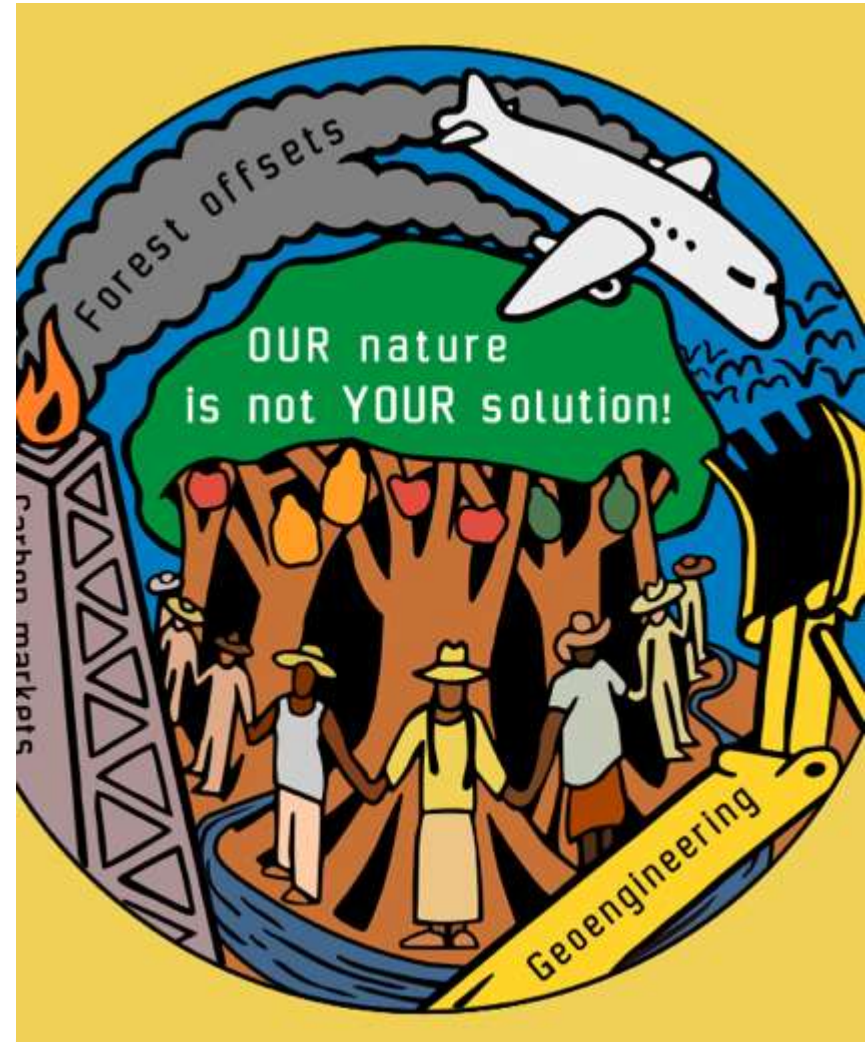
Oil companies such as BP and Shell are nurturing nature as a “future revenue stream”, betting on an expected rise in carbon credit prices as their fossil fuel profits ebb

- BP last year put \$5 million into Finite Carbon, a company that connects forestry owners with companies seeking to offset their climate-warming emissions via-tree planting. The Californian firm expects to generate \$1 billion for landowners over the next 10 years *“And as companies and countries have rushed over the last year to pledge new net-zero global warming pledges, that forecast may be too conservative”* (Chief executive Sean Carney in an interview with Reuters).
- *“Investing in carbon sequestration, at a time when the world is increasingly carbon constrained, over time will prove to make good commercial, business sense,”* (Duncan van Bergen, Shell’s head of Nature Based Solutions, in an interview with Reuters). Shell plans to spend \$100 million on average over the next year or two on nature-based carbon offsets and van Bergen expects emissions cuts from nature-based solutions or carbon sinks will be “material” by 2030 or 2035.
- France’s Total is earmarking \$100 million a year for nature-based solutions, including an unspecified amount toward creating credits.
- The aviation sector could become the biggest offset buyer post-Covid




NBS = the new REDD+

- Nature-based solutions and Net Zero approaches provide a new framework to promote REDD+
- REDD+ is based on flawed calculations of climate change Impacts of forests due to deductive accounting approaches: Rights, biodiversity, and gendered socio-economic values are not accounted for.
- Flawed baselines, unfounded “zero emissions” assumptions and lack of permanence
- Leakage and commodity-driven indirect land use change
- MRV costs (= mainly consultancies) of “REDD+ actions” are up to 70%
- Forest lands are being bought or grabbed by powerful actors trying to benefit from the REDD+ market.
- A 2018 CIFOR research concluded that REDD+ is often gender blind, participation of rightsholders has been limited and it has failed to deliver results on the ground



A photograph of a dense forest of tall, thin trees, likely a plantation. The trees are arranged in neat rows, creating a perspective that leads the eye down a central path. The ground is covered in fallen leaves and low-lying vegetation. The lighting is somewhat dim, suggesting an overcast day or a shaded forest interior.

Tree plantations are commercially the most attractive Nature-based solution



Many lands qualified as “degraded” could easily be restored, often by set-aside: Land use planning should take into account ecological opportunity costs.

Alternative agro-ecology projects and ICCAs provide 10 times more employment, food and biodiversity than monoculture tree plantations



www.globalforestcoalition.org

