



Terms of Reference for AFR100 Governance Bodies

As of November 2017

Overview and objective

The African Forest Landscape Restoration (AFR100) Initiative seeks to restore 100 million hectares of degraded and deforested land in Sub-Saharan Africa by 2030. Restoration of productive landscapes through AFR100 will lead to economic growth, help reduce poverty, stabilize food production, protect biodiversity and contribute to adaptation and mitigation of climate change.

Brief history

AFR100 was launched in December 2015, during the Global Landscapes Forum at the COP21 in Paris by representatives of participating African countries and a wide range of financial and technical partners (including the NEPAD Agency, BMZ and WRI). Prior to the launch, informal consultations with African technical staff working on Forest Landscape Restoration (FLR) were held at the World Forestry Congress in September 2015 in Durban, South Africa. The African Union Specialized Technical Committee within the Department of Rural Development, Environment and Agriculture (DREA) endorsed the 100 million hectares goal in October 2015 through the African Resilient Landscapes Initiative (ARLI).

It was conceived as a partnership to boost the contribution of the African continent to the Bonn Challenge and The New York Declaration on Forests, ALAP, ARLI and other related initiatives to restore deforested and degraded forest lands.

Value proposition

AFR100 brings together political leadership with financial and technical resources to support a large-scale FLR movement across Africa. It provides a platform to more effectively work together to accelerate restoration successes. Activities are driven and owned by partner countries. Contributions by international partners support national efforts and deploy resources to partner countries. Promising FLR experiences will be documented, publicized and scaled up.

AFR100 works towards translating ambitious commitments into action with support from private sector investors, foundations, development banks, and bilateral and multilateral donors. AFR100 leverages grants, equity investments, loans, risk management guarantees and funds for specific interventions designed to support restoration champions and mobilize local communities committed to land care.



Under the political framework of the Africa Resilient Landscape Initiative (ARLI), AFR100 works to accelerate scaling of restoration in Africa in coordination with the African Landscapes Action Plan (ALAP), the African Climate Smart Agriculture Alliance, and numerous related initiatives including the Great Green Wall and TerrAfrica. AFR100 also leverages strong partnerships with regional economic communities, the Central African Forest Commission (COMIFAC), and the Global Partnership for Forest Landscape Restoration (GPFLR). AFR100 will also contribute to the implementation of the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) and the Paris Agreement on Climate Change Adaptation and Mitigation, and to achieving the targets of the UN Convention of Biodiversity (UNCBD) and the UN Convention on Combating Desertification (UNCCD).

Strategy and principles

African ownership, country-level drive and grassroots mobilization are key elements to the success, leadership, identity and sustained impacts of AFR100. FLR outcomes will have to materialize at national level under the leadership of national partners. AFR100 will complement these efforts where needed.

AFR100 provides a platform for communication and exchange, as well as technical support, which aims to:

- Inspire ambitious commitments to restoration in African countries
- Enable better regional and global coordination
- Provide services to develop national FLR strategies
- Support development of in-country partnerships
- Facilitate peer-to-peer learning exchanges

Stakeholder engagement is a key principle of AFR100. Engaging all relevant stakeholders in the assessment of restoration opportunities and identification, testing and active upscaling of promising FLR solutions is considered key for successful restoration.

AFR100 seeks fair and equitable access to land and forest resources for all relevant stakeholders and promotes the rights of local and indigenous communities, youth and women. AFR100 is developing a set of common good practices and principles for FLR, tested tools and guidelines for governance assessments, stakeholder participation, tree tenure and land tenure, and monitoring and other critical aspects. However, the responsibility of safeguarding ecological integrity and social interests remains with the national authorities and implementing partners. AFR100 support is provided through existing institutions. AFR100 aims to create an enabling environment for FLR over the long-term in close partnership with decision-makers and stakeholders at the national and regional levels.



Governance Bodies of AFR100

AFR100 is based on a lean and agile governance structure, aiming at catalyzing national efforts and providing support where needed:

1. The AFR100 Secretariat serves as the main communication hub for the initiative. Housed at the NEPAD Agency, the Secretariat's tasks include coordinating partners to jointly mobilize and sustain political support, coordinates providing technical assistance and facilitating investment, coalition building, knowledge management, monitoring and reporting. The Secretariat also liaises with Regional Economic Communities (RECs). The mandate given to the NEPAD Agency by the African Union Heads of State and Government, provides a strong legitimacy to AFR100 and its ownership by African countries. The Secretariat will make use of existing platforms and structures to increase communication, outreach and leverage. More specifically, the AFR100 Secretariat is responsible for the following:

Liaison and networking with AFR100 countries:

- Provide and manage a platform for outreach, communication, sharing of knowledge and documentation
- Reach out to and regularly communicate with AFR100 country focal points
- Provide regular updates on partnership activities and relevant information about AFR100 via the AFR100 website and newsletter
- Facilitate networking and exchange between AFR100 countries and focal points
- Maintain political momentum of AFR100 by liaising between different types of partners (countries, donors, technical partners)
- Assist in building capacities for FLR implementation in AFR100 countries
- Report aggregated FLR monitoring data provided by countries and technical and financial partners to AU and to all relevant AFR100 stakeholders

Coordinate and manage all relevant day-to-day activities of the AFR100 Initiative, including:

- Preparation, realization of meetings (MT meetings and conference calls, Annual Partnership Meetings (APM), technical ad-hoc working group meetings, others)
- Organize and coordinate ad hoc working groups for specific topics based on demand from AFR100 countries and technical partners
- Keep document repository for AFR100 including confidential section with access for MT only (make use of google drive): Focal points, pledge and affiliation documents, progress information from countries etc.



The Secretariat may draw on support from AFR100 Management Team members for all tasks described above if internal resources are short.

The Secretariat receives financial contributions from financial (and technical) partners. It prepares annual budget proposals for consideration by Management Team.

2. The AFR100 Management Team is an intermediate governance body designed to kick-start the AFR100 initiative and provide guidance through its initial start-up phase. It is comprised of BMZ, GIZ, IUCN, the NEPAD Agency, World Bank and WRI. The Management Team It cooperates with, advises and supports the AFR100 Secretariat. The MT is set up as a lean structure, to keep it agile and able to provide guidance and take decisions as needed on a broad range of aspects.
 - The Management Team holds regular calls and serves as an instrument to share information and updates about FLR activities. It aims to build strong partnerships among technical partners and AFR100 governments to achieve implementation and scaling-up of AFR100 targets.
 - MT meetings are held twice a year at alternating venues (MT member organizations offices).
 - Admission of new member institutions to both the AFR100 Initiative and the AFR100 MT: proposed by Secretariat, decision by MT.
 - Additional detailed information on the AFR100 MT protocols can be found in the “Rules and responsibilities of the AFR100 Management Team”
 - Relation of MT to AFR100 plenary. Important decisions should be endorsed by plenary or an online process involving all AFR100 countries and partners.



AFR100 Partners

AFR100 is relevant for a broad range of partners as restoration at scale can contribute significantly to addressing climate change, reducing the rate of deforestation, improving food and water security and achieving other sustainable development goals. It will only be possible to meet the 100m ha restoration target with widespread engagement from a range of partners in civil society, government, NGOs, and the private sector.

AFR100 partners are liaising with governments, technical and financial partners, other donors and organizations interested in restoration and sustainable development in Africa to enhance coordination with related initiatives and secure additional political support and resources for AFR100.

3. Technical Partners

Technical partners are invited to join AFR100 based on their respective technical, organizational and geographical experiences and contributions to forest landscape restoration (FLR) in Africa.

Technical partners play an essential role in catalyzing AFR100 implementation on the ground and increasing momentum for FLR in Africa. To unlock this potential, AFR100 MT will be proactive in integrating technical partners where convenient and possible.

Technical partners are expected to participate in the annual AFR100 partner meeting, and will participate in thematically-oriented working groups that respond to country requests for assistance. Technical partners share knowledge (lessons learned, successful approaches, forthcoming work plans) to collectively unblock barriers to implementation. Technical partners are also expected to share information about country and African regional programmatic investments, and coordinate/build on other partners' related work where possible.

Benefits of joining the AFR100 partnership include access to key figures in national and sub-national governments, a mechanism to scale up promising approaches and disseminate relevant tools and research, opportunities to improve coordination and harmonize human and financial investments in-country, and connections with private sector partners, among others. Technical partners contribute on a pro-bono basis in principle. For specific activities, they can request adequate compensation from the Secretariat. The Secretariat decides on these requests on a case-by-case basis and considering availability of resources.

Technical Partners commit themselves to adhere to the AFR100 voluntary guidelines.



4. Financial Partners

A combination of public and private finance will be necessary to achieve restoration across 100m ha. Financial partners are invited to join AFR100 based on their respective financial contributions to forest landscape restoration in Africa.

Benefits of joining the AFR100 partnership include access to information on investment-ready restoration enterprises, access to information about the financial, social, and environmental returns of selected investments, and connections with key figures in the private sector and national governments, among others.

Financial Partners commit themselves to adhere to the AFR100 voluntary guidelines. Where appropriate, financial partners are expected to participate in major AFR100 meetings (notably investor roundtables) and provide input to relevant thematic working groups.

Other governance bodies

5. AFR100 ad hoc Working Groups provide technical support, input and guidance on thematic issues and specific topics. They are set up on an ad hoc basis and stewarded by the AFR100 Secretariat, based on demand and orientated around thematic areas. The working groups conduct their work primarily virtually, however, if funds allow, in-person meetings will take place as necessary. AFR100 Working Groups are open to participation from all AFR100 countries, technical and financial partners, depending on the scope and topic at question. The working groups aim to enhance networking and exchange of information as well as the documentation of experiences and identification of best practices for FLR in the AFR100 countries. They will have a time-bound mandate to address specific barriers to implementation on the ground. The AFR100 Secretariat will lead on coordination, quality control and documentation of the WG, and where applicable service contracts. Technical working groups/ ad hoc task teams will usually work under the guidance of the AFR100 Secretariat, leaving internal organization of work to group members. Each working group will work with clear ToR provided by the AFR100 Secretariat.
6. The AFR100 Annual Partner Meeting (APM) is a key event that brings together representatives from all AFR100 countries as well as donors, technical and financial partners, youth, women and members of the media. The meeting takes place once a year in an AFR100 country that has formally expressed interest and willingness to host the meeting.



It serves as a forum to share progress updates, report on national FLR implementation, and get an overview of the FLR process in the AFR100 countries. It also connects technical partners with AFR100 countries to exchange on what in-country activities are in the pipeline, and creates a vehicle for exchange between AFR100 focal points, technical experts, as well as donor representatives. The APM also offers an opportunity for endorsement of certain principles and guidelines; and to mandate the AFR100 partners to undertake specific activities that will add value to the initiative as a whole.

7. The AFR100 Advisory Group,¹ shall be comprised of African country representatives, donors, and financial partner representatives. It will be advocacy orientated and provide strategic guidance for achieving AFR100's goals, and enhancing the effectiveness of the Secretariat and the Task Forces. The Advisory Group supports resource mobilization efforts as well as building and sustaining partnerships. Members will be proposed by the Secretariat and endorsed by the MT. Members will be elected for a two-year-term (to be completed).

¹ Currently, this governance body is not operational yet.