



**Joint statement on behalf of the Global Landscapes Forum (GLF) community:
Informal Session of CBD SBSTTA 24**

Speakers

- Dr. Robert Nasi, Director General of the Center for International Forestry Research (CIFOR) and Managing Director of CIFOR-ICRAF
- Ms. Betty Osei Bonsu, Project Coordinator (Accra) of the Green Africa Youth Organization (GAYO)

Statement from Dr. Nasi

Thank you, esteemed chair and executive secretary for this opportunity. My name is Robert Nasi, and I am the Director General of the Center for International Forestry Research. Today, we speak on behalf of the Global Landscapes Forum community, a global, multi-stakeholder group who will be instrumental in implementing biodiversity action plans, monitoring progress on global restoration efforts and sustaining momentum for building knowledge on the nexus between biodiversity and health beyond 2030.

To rally global action on the interconnected COVID-19, climate, and biodiversity loss crises, the Global Landscapes Forum recently facilitated dialogue between key actors who share interest in responding to ongoing global issues related to conservation, ecosystem restoration and public health. Participants represented 4,800 organizations and 148 countries, and spanned governments, the private sector, financial institutions, NGOs, research, youth organizations, and Indigenous Peoples and Local Communities. The full Global Landscapes Forum Biodiversity 2020 outcome statement and policy report are available as information documents for these meetings.

From these discussions, a resounding call emerged to foster greater recognition and adoption of holistic approaches to sustainable development, especially the landscape and One Health approaches, capable of strengthening the post-2020 Global Biodiversity Framework.

We thus welcome the consideration for biodiversity, ecosystem function, and human health in the post-2020 proposed targets; and the recognition of landscape-scale planning as critical to achieving global ecosystem restoration and conservation ambitions.

We call for greater engagement with the growing number of landscape-level networks to upscale local initiatives, as an entry point to learn from and mainstream best practices.



Statement from Ms. Osei Bonsu

We, the youth of the Global Landscapes Forum community, need everyone to act upon the realization that the Earth's health is our health, and that having a safe place to call home is not optional, but a fundamental human right.

We embrace the targets that aim to hold space in international agendas for individuals of marginalized communities. This is to help ensure that those with the most at stake in the climate, health and biodiversity crises are the owners of development discourse; but space alone is not enough.

We demand economic stimulus measures that promote our capacity building and employment in conservation and restoration at scale.

We call on all actors to prioritize education as a transformative tool to build capacity. Additionally, think critically, collaboratively, holistically to find and apply solutions to interwoven environmental and social challenges.

We call on governments, civil society and educators to work with traditional and local knowledge holders to mainstream education that better addresses needs, and respects the rights of Indigenous Peoples, Local Communities and ecosystems.

We the youth are committed to working diligently for our common present and future. We invite all generations, world leaders, decision-makers, and society to join us in sustaining a safe, radically inclusive and healthy planet for all.