

THE 10 WORLD LARGE SCALE RESTORATION FLAGSHIPS AWARDED BY THE DECADE ON ECOSYSTEM RESTORATION

[The UN Decade on Ecosystem Restoration 2021-2030](#) has identified [the 10 first flagship initiatives](#) that illustrate the breadth and promise of restoration work already underway. Together, the 10 flagships aim to restore more than 60 million hectares and create more than 13 million jobs. In revealing the World Restoration Flagships, the UN Decade seeks to honor the best examples of large-scale and long-term ecosystem restoration, embodying the [10 Restoration Principles](#) of the UN Decade on Ecosystem Restoration. In



December 2022 at the [UN Biodiversity Conference](#) (COP15) in Montreal at a special [virtual gala event](#), the winning initiatives were unveiled.

The United Nations General Assembly has declared the years 2021 through 2030 the [UN Decade on Ecosystem Restoration](#). Led by the UN Environment Programme UNEP and the Food and Agriculture Organization FAO, together with the support of partners, it is designed to prevent, halt, and reverse the loss and degradation of ecosystems worldwide. It aims at reviving billions of hectares, covering terrestrial as well as aquatic ecosystems. In particular, countries have already promised to restore [1 billion hectares](#) – as part of their commitments to the [Paris climate agreement](#), the [Aichi targets](#) for biodiversity, the [Land Degradation Neutrality](#) targets and the [Bonn Challenge](#).



The UN Decade has dedicated a special session of its website to illustrate the main features and results achieved by these [10 Flagship initiatives boosting nature and livelihoods around the world](#):



- **Trinational Atlantic Forest Pact** to restore 15 million ha of forests involving Argentina, Brazil and Paraguay. This World Restoration Flagship is coordinated by the [Pact for the Restoration of the Atlantic Forest](#), a Trinational Network which receives support from 300+ partners and many other international and local organizations. [Visit Initiative.](#)

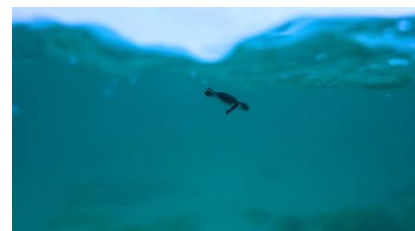


- **Abu Dhabi Marine Restoration.** Safeguarding the [world's second-largest dugong population](#) is a goal of the initiative in the United Arab Emirates to restore beds of seagrass, the vegetarian dugong's preferred food, besides coral reefs and mangroves along the Gulf coast. [Visit Initiative](#)

- **Great Green Wall for Restoration.** The Great Green Wall is a project launched by the African Union in 2007 to restore savannas, grasslands and farmlands across Africa. It has grown from a tree-planting campaign into a comprehensive rural development initiative, creating green and productive landscapes across 11 countries: Burkina Faso, Djibouti, Eritrea, Ethiopia, Mali, Mauritania, Niger, Senegal, Sudan, Chad. [Visit Initiative.](#)



- **Namami Gange** in India. Launched in 2014, the government-led [Namami Gange initiative](#) has invested in waste management and water treatment, while raising public awareness and engaging communities in ecosystem conservation and restoration along the Ganges River. [Visit Initiative.](#)
- **Multi-country Mountain Flagship** in Democratic Republic of the Congo, Kyrgyzstan, Rwanda, Serbia, Uganda. Mountain regions face unique challenges in a changing world. This flagship showcases initiatives in three diverse regions that are making mountain ecosystems more resilient so they can support both people and unique upland wildlife. [Visit Initiative.](#)
- **Small Island Developing States** in Vanuatu, Comoros, Saint Lucia. Focused on three [small island developing states](#), this flagship will scale up reef restoration promoting blue economic growth, including the reduction of pressures on coral reefs, supporting coastal communities, where many make their living off the sea. [Visit Initiative.](#)
- **Altyn Dala Conservation Initiative** in Kazakhstan. The vast steppes of Central Asia are in decline due to overgrazing, conversion to arable land and the shifting climate. The Altyn Dala Conservation Initiative has been working since 2005 to restore steppes, semi-desert and desert ecosystems within the historic range of the saiga, a once abundant antelope critically endangered by hunting and habitat loss. [Visit Initiative.](#)
- **Central American Dry Corridor** in Costa Rica, El Salvador, Guatemala, Honduras, Nicaragua, Panama. The ecosystems and peoples of the [Central American Dry Corridor](#) are vulnerable to climate change. Tapping traditional farming methods to build the productivity of entire landscapes, is at the heart of this restoration flagship, planting trees, boosting soil fertility and water availability, while sustaining much of the biodiversity of the original tropical forest. [Visit Initiative.](#)
- **Building with Nature in Indonesia.** Demak, a low-lying coastal community in Java, has been plagued by erosion, flooding and land loss caused by subsidence and the felling of a nearby protective belt of mangroves. Rather than replanting mangrove trees, [this innovative flagship](#) has built fence-like structures with natural materials along the shore to calm waves and trap sediment, creating conditions for mangroves to rebound naturally. [Visit initiative.](#)
- **Shan-Shui Initiative in China.** China's *Shan-Shui Initiative* is hugely ambitious, comprising 75 large-scale initiatives to restore ecosystems from mountains to coastal estuaries. Launched in 2016, it results from a systematic approach to restoration, including goals for biodiversity. Projects are part of national land use plans, work at the landscape or watershed scale, include agricultural and urban areas as well as natural ecosystems, and seek to boost multiple local industries. [Visit Initiative](#)



The United Nations Decade on Ecosystem Restoration is a global call to action, drawing together political support, scientific research, and financial muscle to massively scale up restoration. The UN Decade acknowledges the time needed for restoration efforts to deliver results until 2030 and regular calls for World Restoration Flagships will be launched. The initiatives declared World Restoration Flagships are eligible to receive UN-backed promotion, advice or funding. To make know about their results and quality, the progress of all 10 World Restoration Flagships will be transparently technically assisted through the *Framework for Ecosystem Restoration Monitoring*, the UN Decade's platform for keeping track of global restoration efforts.

Through communications, events and the dedicated web platform in its website, the UN Decade will provide a hub for everyone interested in

restoration, useful to find projects, partners, funding and the knowledge they need to make their restoration efforts a success. The organizers invite all interested actors to find out how they can take part in the UN Decade on Ecosystem Restoration.

To know more

[10 Flagship initiatives boosting nature and livelihoods around the world](#)

[UN Decade on Ecosystem Restoration.](#)

[UN recognizes 10 pioneering initiatives that are restoring the natural world \(unep.org\)](#)

[COP15-Restoration-Day Programme 13Dec FINAL-1.pdf \(widen.net\)](#)

[UN recognizes 10 pioneering ecosystem restoration initiatives - Rewilding Academy](#)

[Meet the first 10 UN World Restoration Flagships \(decadeonrestoration.org\)](#)

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[UNEP-FAO Fact sheet](#)

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[State of Finance for Nature Report in UNEP website](#)

