

## **Tropical Restoration Expansion for Ecosystem Services (TREES): Accompanying research to Forest Landscape Restoration and Governance in the Forest sector;**

**Country Package:** Ethiopia, Togo, and Madagascar

**Period:** 2022-2025

**Project coordination (ZALF):** Dr. Katharina Löhr, PD Dr. Stefan Sieber

**Contacts:** katharina.loehr@zalf.de; stefan.sieber@zalf.de

In cooperation with implementing organizations on Forest Landscape Restoration (FLR) activities in the tropics, accompanying research is conducted on GIZ's global project Forests4Future (F4F). Thereby, TREES project accompanies the ground implementation of FLR implementing organizations' activities on forest landscape restoration and governance issues in Ethiopia, Togo and Madagascar to base their implementation on scientific evidences.

The project generates scientific insights, including decision variables of forest landscape restoration options at a local level and how it is influenced by existing and anticipated policies. The project investigates the trade-offs that the beneficiaries experience in the implementation of the respective country packages, and how these trade-offs affect the immediate implementation of the interventions. In regular intervals, the findings are presented to the implementing organization and discussed jointly. The project thus contributes to informed decisions in favour of a successful achievement of the objectives of the implementer.

Research results should help to scientifically underpin the FLR practices developed for each country package, taking into account the respective context-specific ecological, economic and social framework conditions. Elements of the accompanying research include:

- In-depth study of the impacts of forest conservation measures to address climate change and improve the livelihood of smallholder farmers.
- Conduct of cost-benefit analysis of different FLR option in respective project areas to identify best-fit options.
- Support the ongoing local implementation and international actors in the field of forest and environment from research, politics and development cooperation such as GIZ, and other stakeholders.
- Identification of intervention points to empower vulnerable groups through forest conservation and farm diversification.
- Produce reports on results in the form of policy briefs and scientific publications, and transfer knowledge through conference presentations, workshops and seminars in the countries of the global project, as well as in Germany and internationally.

### **BMZ financed Forests4Future project**

The Global project on Forest landscape restoration and good governance in the forest sector (Forests4Future, F4F) is commissioned by Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development (BMZ) and is implemented by Deutsche Gesellschaft für Internationale Zusammenarbeit (GIZ) GmbH in Ethiopia, Madagascar, Togo, Ivory Coast and Laos during the period from 2020 until 2025. F4F advises the BMZ on Forest Landscape Restoration (FLR) approaches and on Forest Law

Supported by the

Enforcement, Governance and Trade (FLEGT). Furthermore, it accompanies the African Forest Landscape Restoration Initiative (AFR100) conceptually and participates in its steering.

Important contributions to achieve the national FLR goals in selected partner countries are implemented. This takes the form of mosaic landscapes in which various utility and conservation functions are coordinated and the proportion of forest and trees is increased. The goal is a cross-sectoral landscape that is defined by the interaction of the actors involved, thus highlighting the special role of forests in rural development in the context of food security.

For more information on F4F: <https://www.giz.de/en/worldwide/85060.html>

### **The Leibniz Centre for Agricultural Landscape Research (ZALF)**

TREES project is coordinated by ZALF in working group SusLAND. ZALF conducts research on economically, ecologically and socially sustainable agriculture of the future. This includes the sustainable design of agricultural landscapes. In particular, ZALF focuses on the interaction between the different types of landscape (field, meadow, forest) and forms of cultivation. To this end, ZALF conducts excellent disciplinary and interdisciplinary basic and applied research on all relevant natural, technological and socio-economic contexts of land use in agricultural, silvo-pastoral and agroforestry landscapes, with a particular focus on addressing the complex societal challenges at different scales and using ideal infrastructures for landscape experiments, research data and modeling.

Beyond generating new knowledge about landscape processes and agricultural production systems, ZALF uses transdisciplinary research approaches to develop new governance approaches and mechanisms for resolving land-use conflicts needed to balance landscape use. This includes processes of change and innovation for the sustainable development of rural regions under changing natural, technological, institutional and socio-economic conditions. ZALF research questions are guided by societal needs, national and international frameworks, and new scientific findings. Building on its research activities, ZALF advises and accompanies policy-makers, practitioners and society with knowledge-based proposals for solutions.

### **Working Group Sustainable Land Use and Governance in Developing Countries (SusLAND)**

The focus of the working group is the analysis of land use and landscape systems in emerging and developing countries. Based on the analyses, strategies will be developed using interdisciplinary research methods to address the complex problems of land use in agricultural and forestry systems in developing countries at local, regional and global level. In particular, issues of avoiding land use conflicts, improving adaptation to climate change, securing food supplies, and the livelihoods of family farms are of central importance. An integral part of SusLAND projects is the direct exchange of knowledge with stakeholders in the partner countries, as well as the training of young scientists in Germany and the partner countries. The working group operates in Sub-Saharan Africa, Latin America and South Asia with a wide network of cooperation partners worldwide. The SusLAND management is active in various working groups and expert committees, inter alia the Round Table on Agroecology (BMZ), the Working Group on World Food Security (BMEL, BMZ), and as a member of the 2020 International Advisory Group of the International Climate Initiative (IKI/BMU).

For more information on ZALF: [www.zalf.de](http://www.zalf.de)

Supported by the