

Strategies for Funding Landscape Partnerships

Thursday, October 19, 2023

10:00-11:30 AM

Opening speaker:



Alejandro Diaz Loyola is a Landscape Finance Specialist at [Commonland](#), where he supports landscape partners with mobilizing finance for investment opportunities that contribute to large-scale landscape restoration initiatives.

Previously, Alejandro supported the design of blended finance vehicles targeting natural capital in emerging markets. He started his career working in capital markets, where he obtained his Chartered Financial Analyst (CFA) charter. He grew up in Mexico City and is currently based in Amsterdam.

Moderator:



Jean-Louis Robadey co-founded the [Regenerative Development Group](#), a firm that supports the development of programs, enterprises, and investments that conserve nature, restore landscapes, and develop equitable nature-based economies. Jean-Louis has a 30-year career as a sustainable development professional. He has held executive positions in non-profit, for-profit, and philanthropic organizations and consulted across sectors to build high-impact programs and social investments. Jean-Louis lives in Seattle, WA, where he enjoys the Evergreen State with his wife, three children, two cats, and one dog.

Panel Speakers:



Martha “Pati” Ruiz Corzo cofounded the Sierra Gorda Ecological Group (GESG) in 1987. The GESG obtained the decree as a federally protected area a decade later. Creating a site managed by civil society was unique in Mexico. Ruiz Corzo was named Federal Director of the Reserve, where she remained the head until 2009 when she returned to the helm at GESG.

The result has been the continuous operation of a grassroots environmental movement that has transformed the local population’s natural resource management practices. Her work has reoriented public spending and inter-agency cooperation to

reach multiple stakeholders through the following programs:

- Environmental education
- The diversification of productive skills
- Solid waste management
- Regenerative practices in soils and forests
- Healthy food production
- Forest resource utilization
- Community tourism

She measures her success with the 55 microenterprises that now operate successfully in the area and the state’s public policy and private donors valuing forest services to reduce carbon footprints.

Resources from GESG:

- [GESG Landscape Finance profile](#)
- [GESG website](#)
- [GESG model](#)



Carl Bruessow is the current director at the Mt. Mulanje Mountain Conservation Trust (MMCT), working in south-eastern Malawi. He was third-generation in Malawi and came into wildlife conservation as a systems analyst. While he has worked for small nonprofits and large donors such as USAID – he has dedicated himself to MMCT for the past 20 years. However, although only 600 km², Mt. Mulanje has exceptionally high endemic

biodiversity; considering its vulnerable social context, it is recognized as a Key Biodiversity Area (Priority One) and an Alliance for Zero Extinction site. Bruessow believes sustainable conservation progress requires a meaningful social contract where positive livelihood and ecological outcomes are catalysed by working closely with commerce on the mountain's natural resources and environmental services.

Mount Mulanje Conservation Trust website:

<https://mountmulanje.org.mw/mount-mulanje/>

Mount Mulanje Conservation Trust description: <https://mountmulanje.org.mw/mmct/>

Mount Mulanje Conservation Trust Landscape Finance profile:

https://landscapes.global/wp-content/uploads/2023/02/Malawi-Mt-Mulanje_ILF-Portfolio.pdf



Hendrik Buermann is a Senior Project Manager at GIZ International Services and Project Director of the Laudes Foundation-funded *Tanzania Regenerative Production Landscape*.

He holds a Master's in Social Sciences and International Political Economy and has worked in international development projects since 2007. He implemented several large-scale projects for the EU, World Bank, DFID, Mastercard Foundation, and GFATM in India, Pakistan, Afghanistan, Tanzania, Sierra Leone, Liberia, Malawi and South Africa in agriculture, private sector development, natural resource management, and security.

Since 2016, he has been based in Tanzania, where he started the Laudes Foundation funded Organic Cotton program that made Tanzania one of the world's largest organic cotton producers. He firmly believes that development only works through coalition building and setting the right incentives. Framework conditions must be enabled so the private sector can drive transformation.

In his free time, he works with his wife in their social business, Kazi Yetu Ltd., with the vision to set a new benchmark for trade from East Africa, increasing opportunities for employment and growth by increasing local value addition to tea and niche products made in Tanzania and the region, targeting export markets in Europe, North America, and the Middle East.

Tanzania Regenerative Production Landscape Finance profile:

<https://landscapes.global/wp-content/uploads/2023/02/Tanzania-Regenerative-Production-Landscape-ILF-Portfolio.pdf>

Other resources:

Integrated landscape finance mechanisms:

<https://landscapes.global/integrated-landscape-finance-mechanisms/>

Landscape finance profiles: <https://landscapes.global/landscape-finance-profiles/>

Integrated Landscape Management Practical Guide: <https://landscapes.global/guide/>

Commonland 4 Returns Framework for Landscape Restoration:

<https://commonland.com/wp-content/uploads/2021/08/4>Returns-Framework-For-Landscape-Restoration.pdf>