IGNITING A GLOBAL MOVEMENT FOR LANDSCAPE TRANSFORMATION

Our Collective Problem

As the world grapples with climate change, threatened food systems, biodiversity loss, ecosystem destruction, poverty, and water insecurity, the need for innovative and unified solutions has never been more urgent. These global crises are interconnected, with each exacerbating the other. Traditional fragmented approaches, often isolated, uninformed by, or even harming local and Indigenous actors, have proven inadequate at addressing these systemic problems.

The Landscape Solution

Yet fresh hope emerges through the action of locally-led landscape partnerships. Responses to global crises are grounded in specific places. Landscapes and seascapes–socio-ecological systems where natural habitats, productive land use, and human settlements intersect–offer the most effective scale for action. Landscape partnerships unite stakeholders from across the landscape to develop and implement holistic strategies that address complex interdependencies, opening up opportunities for transformation. *This approach is not just a solution; it's a revolution in how we interact with our planet and each other.*

Despite their promise, local landscape partnerships often lack capacity, resources, finance, and backing from national governments and businesses. More and more organizations, networks, and institutions have begun offering their support. But even their actions remain fragmented, lacking the ambition, resources, and orchestration needed for a cohesive movement that generates impact at scale.

1000 Landscapes for 1 Billion People (1000L) stands at the forefront of a transformative movement. Over the past four years, 1000L has built a powerful coalition of over 40 organizations engaged with more than 200 landscape partnerships that aim to resolve the world's poly-crises through holistic action in landscapes. Our coalition has co-designed and tested with landscape partners a suite of capacity strengthening, finance, coalition building, and digital tools, methodologies, and frameworks to accelerate the impact of landscape partnerships. We have merged approaches and networks among our field-leading partners to develop cutting-edge resources and lay the groundwork for a global movement.

Our Goal

By 2030, we aim to empower at least 1000 landscape partnerships that support 1 billion people through the five elements of the integrated landscape management (ILM) process. These landscapes will help communities achieve four returns that redefine our relationship with the planet, supporting human well-being, healthy nature, regenerative economies, and inspiration for action today and for future generations.

Our Strategy

1000L is cultivating three teams to mobilize the movement. These teams, along with their global and national allies, will each serve as a fulcrum that local landscape leaders and their allies can leverage to amplify their work and build an infrastructure for transformation:

1. Empower Landscape Partnerships

This team is the heart of our initiative. It's about supporting landscape partnerships to transform their landscapes, meeting their goals for prosperity, sustainability, and resilience. The team will collaborate with a global community of technical experts to strengthen partnerships' capacities in integrated landscape management, provide digital tools and data, and help them mobilize the finance needed for transformative investments. They will reach 1000 landscapes in three ways. First, a decentralized web of partners will institutionalize these services in their organizations–NGOs, government agencies, businesses, and landscape networks. Second, the Terraso digital platform will support and amplify these efforts, harnessing the power of information technology to reach landscape leaders globally with user-friendly tools, resources, data, and networking capabilities. Third, 1000L will nourish national landscape action coalitions to deepen and connect resources at the country level.

2. Foster an Enabling Environment for Thriving Landscape Partnerships

An enabling environment is critical to the long-term success of landscape partnerships. This team will work with allies in finance, business, and government, as well as a network of specialized experts to foster collaborative dialogue and action to transform these systems. The team will build the capacity of public, private, and philanthropic funders to invest at landscape scale; establish a network of finance and business service providers to link landscape projects with investors; increase the institutional uptake of landscape finance tools; and develop place-based finance mechanisms. Collaborating with businesses and market actors, the team will foster innovations aligning with landscape partnership goals. The team will advise governments on how to integrate ILM into national and international programs and organizations and coalitions on how to engage with landscape partnerships to achieve specific sustainability goals.

3. Connect Action and Learning Across the Collaborative Landscape Community

This team will cultivate a global community of landscape partnerships and their allies, providing a collective voice and action platform. 1000L will craft and disseminate unified messaging on the value of ILM and the 4Returns Framework, empower grassroots communications, and mobilize joint advocacy campaigns. The team will support policy advocacy by national landscape coalitions and amplify the voices of landscape leaders in policy dialogues. A robust infrastructure for continuous learning will be established, including innovative monitoring, evaluation, and synthesis at landscape and systems levels. Research partnerships will drive a positive feedback loop of research led by and supporting landscape partnerships.

A Pivotal Moment

We must move quickly and at an unprecedented scale to protect nature, people, and the climate, securing our collective future and that of generations to come. Our coalition has laid the necessary foundations to accelerate holistic landscape transformation worldwide. Now, we seek to mobilize a movement of partners, supporters, champions, and friends to be part of this transformative story. Join us in creating a world where every landscape tells a tale of regeneration, empowerment, prosperity, and hope.

For more info, visit landscapes.global and contact Sara Scherr, 1000L Chair, sscherr@ecoagriculture.org.