



# Land Use DIALOGUE

*An engagement platform for gathering knowledge and supporting processes to enable improved governance, inclusive development and responsible business in key landscapes.*

## Context

Across the globe, thought leaders from civil society, governments, and business are advancing a landscape approach to land-use and resource decision making. Such an approach seeks to address the often-competing interests of different stakeholders across a landscape to engage in multi-sectoral, collaborative land management.

For some, a landscape approach centers on national and regional participatory land use governance and management while for others it centers on private-public partnerships. Additionally, it is considered a mechanism to involve those rarely included in landscape level decision making, such as communities, helping to facilitate solutions that include and benefit them.

Due to an observed gap in how the landscape approach concept translates to successful implementation on the ground, members of The Forests Dialogue (TFD) Steering Committee developed the Land Use Dialogue (LUD) initiative. The goal of the LUD initiative is to support a multi-stakeholder platform for collaborative, adaptive land management in select landscapes around the world.

## Land Use Dialogue Model

The LUD model supports the establishment or bolsters the continuation of a stakeholder driven **landscape platform** central to landscape approach implementation. The multi-stakeholder landscape platform **builds shared understanding** between local stakeholders and global partners engaging in LUD processes in their own landscapes. Together landscape stakeholders foster a common **landscape vision** of how various priorities and challenges across sectors and land uses connect.

Establishing and implementing a shared landscape vision requires that stakeholders have mechanisms for trust and paths of communication and information sharing. The platform supports a dialogue process, in which stakeholders can establish the foundation for conflict resolution and partnerships between sectors and scales. This is enabled by a platform that ensures diverse and informed views and pathways for change are respected and incorporated. The LUD model is designed to identify locally prioritized actions across multiple pathways for change.

<b>Landscape Platform</b>	Inclusive, neutral, responsive Measure, evaluate and adapt Foster trust building and conflict resolution
<b>Shared Understanding</b>	Map activities, stakeholders, and platforms Identify fracture lines Cross landscape communities of practice
<b>Landscape Vision</b>	Identify tradeoffs and synergies Establish goals and pathways for change Commit to action

### These often include:

- ➔ Generating recommendations for policy guidelines or implementation;
- ➔ resolving conflicts and confusion around land rights and boundaries;
- ➔ developing partnerships between community and private sector;
- ➔ testing sustainable land use practices;
- ➔ establishing information sharing and learning networks locally and internationally.

## LUDs in Practice

TFD has developed and facilitated 18 dialogue initiatives since its establishment in 2000, half of which have focused on what would now be called 'landscape' topics. Notably, The Food, Fuel, Fiber and Forests (4Fs) initiative, launched in 2011, used a traditional TFD model to engage stakeholders across a landscape in reconciling competing land use needs. Based off the learnings from 4F field dialogues in Brazil, Indonesia, and Finland, in 2014 the TFD Steering Committee developed the LUD initiative, reflecting a new engagement model.

The Land Use Dialogue has piloted an approach to support local multi-stakeholder landscape platforms in Brazil and Tanzania. With differing ecosystems, prior dialogue engagement, and governance challenges, these LUD platforms have highlighted key learnings, enabling conditions, and challenges relevant for landscape approaches worldwide.

## Brazil

The Brazilian Atlantic Rainforest is a highly threatened global biodiversity hotspot that has only 8% of its original forest cover remaining due to land use pressures. This landscape contains a mosaic of governmental/private nature conservation areas with diverse ownership arrangements including private forest companies and a strong and concentrated smallholder presence.

The Brazil LUD, launched in April 2016 in Atalanta, Santa Catarina, is focused on planning and implementing sustainable landscapes at the Upper Itajai Valley. Key partners include Apremavi, The Brazilian Forests Dialogue, and IUCN. Outcomes from the LUD include: the first Map of Priority Areas for Sustainable Landscapes in the Upper Itajai Valley and adjacent municipalities; recommendations to public and private sectors and the community about prevention and mitigation of environmental risks; a list of priority actions to guide public policy, investment in conservation, and private sector initiatives.

## Tanzania

The Southern Agricultural Growth Corridor of Tanzania (SAGCOT) covers approximately one third of mainland Tanzania. Increasing land use demands from a diversity of sectors put this landscape at risk, requiring the Land Use Dialogue approach to develop a more integrated and holistic view of the landscape, balancing multiple objectives through engaging private and local stakeholders (such as smallholders, government, CSOs and commodity buyers).

The Tanzania LUD was launched in October of 2016 in the Ihemi Cluster of Southern Tanzania, with the objective of creating a platform for decision makers to explore land use plans and policies; bring together diverse stakeholders to explore on-the-ground challenges; and seek tangible actions to achieve sustainable land use, food security and improved livelihoods. Key partners include IUCN's SUSTAIN-Africa Programme and the SAGCOT Corridor. The LUD dialogues have explored lessons on best practices and key challenges to achieving a green and inclusive landscape vision.

## Next Steps

The LUD is launching dialogue platforms in landscapes of **Tanzania, Uganda, Ghana** and the **Democratic Republic of the Congo** in coordination with the IUCN Stabilizing Land Use Project. Key local partners in each landscape will focus on synergies across sectors, land uses, and priorities through governance working groups.

## About the Land Use Dialogue Partners

### INTERNATIONAL UNION FOR CONSERVATION OF NATURE

[www.iucn.org/](http://www.iucn.org/)

The international Union for Conservation of Nature (IUCN) helps the world find pragmatic solutions to our most pressing environment and development challenges. The LUD is connected to IUCN's SUSTAIN-Africa initiative and Stabilizing Land Use Project in the LUD landscapes in Africa. The LUD supports IUCN goals of improved landscape governance and collaboration across sectors for multi-functional landscapes with enhanced biodiversity value.

### THE FORESTS DIALOGUE

[theforestdialogue.org](http://theforestdialogue.org)

The Forests Dialogue (TFD) is a neutral, international, multi-stakeholder platform governed by an international Steering Committee and a secretariat hosted by Yale University. TFD provides LUD landscape level support to through conducting background research, supporting the dialogue process, conducting monitoring and evaluation. Additionally, TFD supports the LUD through linking landscapes to international partners and a global LUD Community of Practice.

### WORLD BUSINESS COUNCIL FOR SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT

[www.wbcasd.org](http://www.wbcasd.org)

The World Business Council for Sustainable Development (WBCSD), an organization of some 200 companies, brings together the global business community to create a sustainable future for business, society and the environment. The WBCSD acts as a broker between its members and the LUD initiative, helping engage companies at the global and local level through its Global Network.