

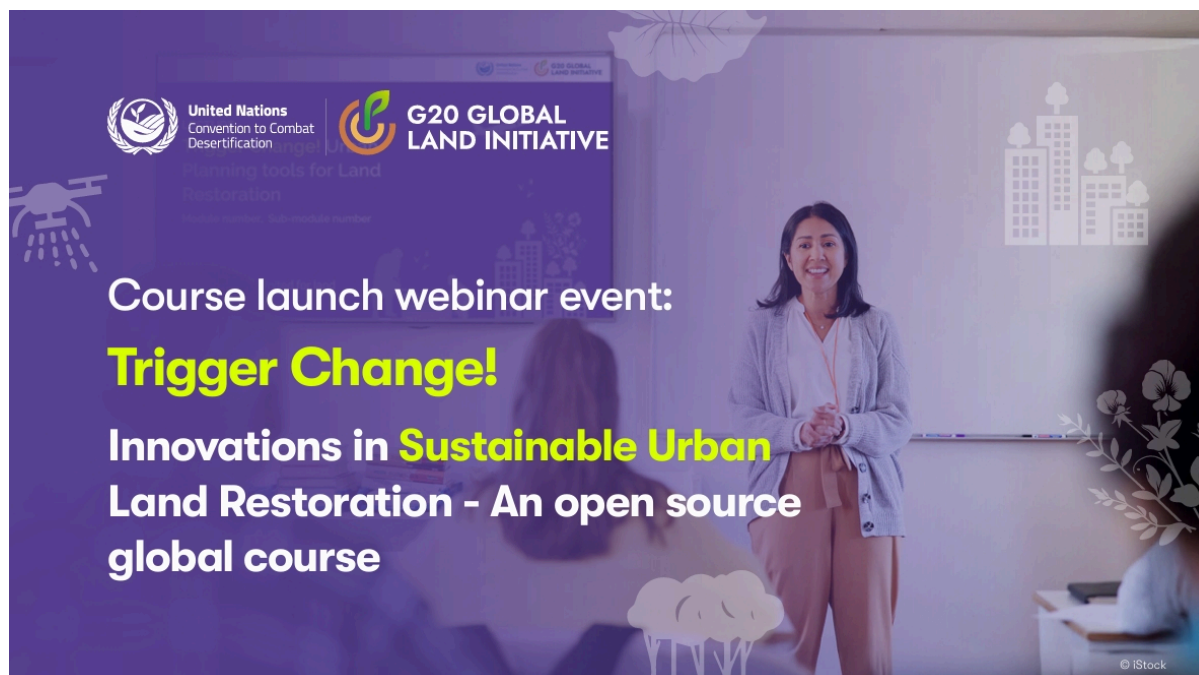


United Nations
Convention to Combat
Desertification



G20 GLOBAL
LAND INITIATIVE

NEWSLETTER G20 GLOBAL LAND INITIATIVE / APRIL 2025



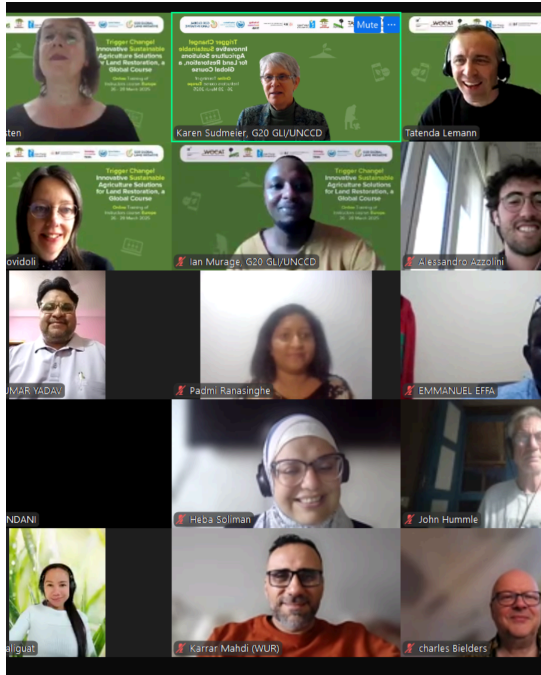
Webinar Launch: "Trigger Change! Innovations in Sustainable Urban Land Restoration"

Urban areas face rising land degradation, pollution and health crises. Join us for the launch of *Trigger Change!* a free open-source university course tackling these challenges through sustainable urban land restoration. Designed for urban planning, landscape architecture and geography programs, the course promotes innovative, transdisciplinary solutions. Speakers include Dr. Muralee Thummarukudy, Director of the G20 Global Land Initiative at UNCCD, Prof. Dr. Shen Xiaomeng, Vice-Rector in Europe and Director of the United Nations University, Institute for Environment and Human Security and Prof. Dr. Lars Ribbe, Dean of the Institute for Technology and Resources Management in the Tropics and Subtropics (ITT) at TH-Köln, University of Applied Sciences. Let's restore cities together! [Register here!](#)

Stories

Desertification and Drought Day 2025: Restore the Land. Unlock the Opportunities

On 17 June 2025, Desertification and Drought Day will focus on restoring 1.5 billion hectares of degraded land.



One Year of Trigger Change! New Communities in Sustainable Agriculture for Land Restoration

On 28 March 2025, we marked one year of *Trigger Change!* our open-source course on sustainable agriculture for land restoration. With over 1000 downloads, global workshops and growing communities of practice, the course is driving innovation and collaboration worldwide. Join the network and explore the course today.

[Course material](#) | [LinkedIn Group](#)

Presenting the Trillion-Dollar Restoration Economy at START Summit x Hack 2025

G20 Global Land Initiative in partnership with International Trade Centre supported youth-led startups, hosted workshops and led a hackathon on Sahel land issues at the START x Hack 2025. For more info click [here](#).





Youth Leading the Restoration Economy: G20 GLI and YECCO at ChangeNow 2025

G20 Global Land Initiative will showcase ten youth-led startups from the Youth Ecopreneur Programme at ChangeNOW 2025 in Paris, all aimed at promoting youth-driven land restoration.

When the Land Dies, Futures Fade

In Morocco, land degradation hits rural women hardest. UNCCD Sport4Land Champion Asmaa Niang uses sport to empower women facing desertification to build resilience. Get to know Niang.



Reweaving Fashion: How Women are Leading Change for a Sustainable Industry

The fashion industry harms land and biodiversity, with women making up most of its workforce yet lacking land rights. When women own land, they drive sustainability.

Publications

Housing and Property Restitution for Refugees and Displaced Persons. Implementing the Pinheiro Principles in the Middle East and North Africa

The publication offers practical guidance for protecting the housing, land and property rights of refugees and internally displaced persons in the MENA region. Adapted from the global 2007 Handbook. It highlights the importance of returning land to its rightful owners as part of durable solutions and stresses that land restitution must be supported by broader structural reforms to address the root causes of displacement. The guidance promotes coordinated

efforts across humanitarian, development and peacebuilding sectors to ensure just and sustainable land restoration in post-conflict recovery. Find the publication [here](#).

The State of the World's Forests 2024: Chapter 5 - Innovation Must Be Scaled Up Responsibly to Maximize the Contributions of the Forest Sector to AgriFood Systems Transformations and Other Global Challenges

Chapter 5 highlights how scaling up responsible innovation in the forest sector can significantly contribute to transforming agrifood systems and addressing global challenges, including forest and land restoration. Partnerships with Indigenous Peoples, youth, women and local communities are vital for scaling up innovations that restore forests and degraded lands while supporting livelihoods and ecological balance. Find the report [here](#).

Meet the Interns:



Wilmer Lezcano

Intern

Wilmer Lezcano is a highly-motivated and results-driven individual with a strong passion and background in sustainability, decarbonization and environmental conservation. Wilmer holds a bachelor's degree in Environmental Engineering from Colombia and is currently pursuing a master's degree in Environmental Sustainability in Spain. His academic journey began as a *Ser Pilo Paga* scholar, a prestigious program by the Colombian Ministry of Education that supports outstanding students. Read more [here](#).

Vacancies

[Junior Analyst - Innovative Financing](#)| United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification (UNCCD) (Deadline: 20 April 2025)

[Consultant for Global Land Outlook and Related Knowledge Product](#) | Convention to Combat Desertification (UNCCD) (Deadline: 21 April 2025)

[Producing the Global Land Outlook Small Island Developing States: \(1\). Asia/Pacific Ocean \(2\) Americas/Caribbean \(3\) Africa/Indian Ocean \(3 Positions\)](#)| United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification (UNCCD) (Deadline: 26 April 2025)

[Programme Assistant](#) | United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification (UNCCD) (Deadline: 26 April 2025)

[Legal Officer](#)| United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification (UNCCD) (Deadline: 27 April 2025)

Events



[Reforest Fest 2025](#)

Dates: 18-21 April 2025

Location: Bodhi Kaya Nature Retreat,
Walker Bay Conservancy, South Africa

[Other Tickets on sale now!](#)

Watch a video on the festival [here](#).



FutureScape: Land Restoration, Landscaping and Resilient Homes, are they connected?

Dates: 28-29 April 2025

Location: The Arena Riyadh, Saudi Arabia

[More Information](#)



World Bank Land Conference 2025: Securing Land Tenure and Access for Climate Action

Dates: 5-8 May 2025

Location: Washington, DC, USA

[More Information](#)



Second Edition of the Research Innovation Fund

Application Deadline: 15 May 2025

Application information [here!](#)



The Convention on Wetlands: 15th Meeting of the Conference of the Contracting Parties

Dates: 23-31 July 2025

Location: Victoria Falls, Zimbabwe

Sign up [here!](#)



International Symposium: A Global Call for Land Restoration Action

Dates: 15-17 September 2025

Location: Zeche Zollverein, Essen, Germany

Sign up [here!](#)



11th World Conference on Ecological Restoration (SER2025)

Dates: 30 September - 4 October 2025

Registration Deadline: 15 April 2025

Location: Denver, Colorado, USA

Register [here!](#)



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Our mailing address is:

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United Nations

Convention to Combat
Desertification

United for land

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