



## NEWSLETTER G20 GLOBAL LAND INITIATIVE / FEBRUARY 2026



### For the First Time, Kenya's Dryland Farmers are Farming with Their Eyes Open

When Maryanne Gichanga stepped onto the UNCCD Land of Opportunities stage at COP16 in Riyadh, she was not arriving alone. She was representing the new generation of innovators shaped and supported through the Youth Ecopreneur Programme (YECO) — a platform designed to help young leaders turn restoration ideas into scalable solutions. Explore full story [here](#).

## Stories



### Wetlands Rising: A Climate-Land Nexus Webinar on Indigenous Stewardship and Restoration

Join us on 17 February 2026 to find out why this dialogue matters – now more than ever. Register [here](#).

## Join the 17th Greenstorm Photography Festival

Photographers from 97 countries have already submitted powerful images of rangelands and grasslands. Help ensure that all 196 Parties to the UNCCD are represented — submit a photo [here](#) or share the opportunity with a photographer.



## Youth Activist Kemo Fatty's Step-by-Step Plan to Save Gambia's Damaged Land

This Land Talks episode features Kemo Fatty on how Green-Up Gambia is restoring land and empowering communities. Listen to the podcast [here](#).

## Generation Restoration Dialogues: New Knowledge

This session highlights how universities and digital platforms can empower millions to achieve long-term land restoration. Watch the recording [here](#).



## How Africa's Great Green Wall is Transforming Land, Lives and Creating Green Jobs

This Land Talks episode features Gilles Amadou Ouedraogo on data, governance and community leadership being essential for restoration and livelihoods. Listen to podcast [here](#).

## How Planting Dense, Biodiverse Forests Can Make Desert Cities Thrive

This Land Talks features Sara Meush on Miyawaki forests transforming Middle Eastern cities through rapid restoration, biodiversity growth and climate resilience. Watch the recording [here](#).



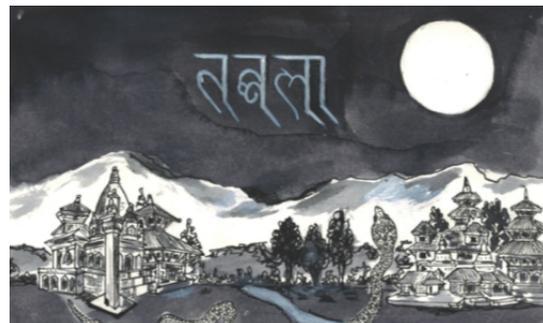
## Why the Wetlands Ecosystem is Disappearing and How Most People Don't Even Notice

In this Land Talks episode, Dr. Musonda Mumba explores why wetlands are vital for climate, water, food systems and restoration. Listen to podcast [here](#).



## Nagraj Trail Comic

Created by our grant-winning artist, this comic depicts Kathmandu's mythic spirit, with regenerative farming and convivial conservation. Explore full comic [here](#).



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# Publications

## The IPBES Business and Biodiversity Assessment

The Intergovernmental Science-Policy Platform on Biodiversity and Ecosystem Services (IPBES) is inviting experts, policymakers and knowledge holders to participate in its *Communities of Practice* self-organized groups focused on specific biodiversity and ecosystem topics. The initiative aims to expand collaboration, build capacity and deepen the impact of IPBES assessments and tools by offering flexible ways for stakeholders worldwide to get involved. Find out more [here](#).

## State of Finance For Nature 2026: Nature in the Red

For every dollar invested in protecting nature, US\$30 are spent destroying it. To align with global climate, biodiversity and land restoration objectives, annual Nature-based Solutions (NbS) investment must rise to US\$571 billion by 2030 just 0.5 per cent of global GDP. This reveals the stark imbalance between finance that harms nature and investments that support NbS. Find out more [here](#).

## **From Carbon to Co-Benefit: Scaling Carbon Finance for Land, Livelihood and Long-Term Resilience**

Carbon markets are expanding quickly, but the benefits are not reaching everyone. As many drought-affected and land-dependent communities still find the system difficult to access and hard to trust, the urgency is growing to ensure that carbon finance delivers more than emissions reductions. This white paper outlines practical ways to ensure carbon finance supports land restoration and strengthens rural livelihoods, rather than leaving vulnerable communities behind. Find out more [here](#).

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## **Meet the Interns:**



**Nour Barakat**

Intern

Nour Barakat is a dedicated social and environmental researcher. Her research interests include urbanism, minority and resistance studies, social impacts of climate change and political anthropology. She completed her BA in Political Science and Anthropology at the American University in Cairo and is currently in the final stages of the MSc Geography of Environmental Risks and Human Security at UNU-EHS and the University of Bonn. Read more about Nour [here](#).

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## **Vacancies**

# Events



## Webinar: Wetlands, Land & the Climate Nexus

Dates: Feb 17, 2026

Register: [here](#)



## GCBCCM - 2026

Dates: 22 Feb, 2026

Venue: Chicago, USA

Register: [here](#)



## The National Climate Change and Net Zero Conference 2026

Dates: Feb 24, 2026

Venue: Online, UK

Register: [here](#)



## Africa's Green Economy Summit 2026 (AGES)

Dates: 24 - 27 Feb, 2026

Venue: Cape Town, South Africa

Register: [here](#)



## World Sustainable Development Summit 2026

Dates: 25 - 27 Feb, 2026

Venue: New Delhi, India



## ChangeNOW

Dates: 30 March - 01 April, 2026

Venue: Paris, France

Register: [here](#)



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**Our mailing address is:**

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**United Nations**  
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# United for land

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