GLOBAL EVERGREENING ALLIANCE

EVERGREENING THE EARTH

**ORGANISATIONAL STRATEGY
2021-2030**

Global
EverGreening
Alliance

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WHO WE ARE

The Global EverGreening Alliance (GEA) is a membership-based alliance that develops long-term solutions to restore degraded lands and fight poverty on a globally significant scale. We bring together some of the world's most capable development and environmental NGOs, research, and scientific organisations to harness our collective energies to support and facilitate massive-scale environmental restoration and sustainable agricultural projects. Together we build on our shared vision of resilient landscapes and agricultural systems, a safe climate and better livelihoods for marginalised and disadvantaged communities living in poverty.

OUR VISION

Degraded agricultural, pastoral and forest lands are restored through the regeneration and/or integration of trees and are sustainably managed by local communities. This results in more biodiverse, productive and resilient landscapes and agricultural systems, providing small-scale farmer, pastoralist and forest-dependent communities (including people of all genders) with improved and diversified livelihoods, fostering 'green' rural economic growth, and creating an agriculture sector that produces zero net GHG emissions.

OUR MISSION

- To support our member organisations, interested governments and donors/investors, and vulnerable small-scale farming, pastoralist and forest-dependent communities to restore degraded landscapes and improve the sustainability, productivity, resilience, equity and profitability of agricultural systems through the managed regeneration and/or integration of trees into farm, pastoral and forest lands.

- To drive the 'EverGreening the Earth' campaign, which will foster and accelerate grassroots movements around the world to adopt Evergreening practices.

OUR CORE VALUES

- Social Justice: We feel the urgency to find and implement solutions to the global challenges of eliminating hunger, eradicating poverty, and promoting social justice.

- Sustainable Development: We value a healthy and diverse environment, and our common natural heritage, and are committed to ensuring the wellbeing of both present and future generations.

OUR VALUE PROPOSITION

- A unique collaboration and programming approach that enables large scale impact, efficiencies and economies of scale by leveraging members' expertise and local networks.
- Impartial, merits-based capacity assessments that provide a portfolio of best available capacity and expertise in-country to donors/investors.
- A web-based platform that ensures real-time monitoring and accountability to members and donors/investors and supports the monitoring of the Campaign targets.
- Provision of a single entity that can meet donors/investors and all members' risk management and compliance requirements in large scale-consortium level programs.

CONTEXT

Land degradation is one of the great global challenges of our time and will continue to worsen without scaled up action. Globally, many smallholder farmers and pastoralists lack the resources to cope; Increasingly poor and unreliable agricultural yields, coupled with inaccessible or inequitable value-chains and local markets, quickly lead to acute poverty, food insecurity and, in some cases, famine. Increased urbanisation and the removal of vegetation has significant impacts on health, wellbeing and livelihoods.

While there has been significant effort and investment around the globe, this has not been enough. There has not been the level of coordination across sectors, institutions and the private sector to address the scale and complexities of the development and environmental issues humans face. We need better policy, political will, strategic intent, investment and technical support to align and make this work. There is an increasing focus on public-private partnerships and an imperative to unlock private sector finance to tackle critical climate issues. This has renewed the focus on both public and private fund mobilisation. Simultaneously, there has been a global growth in carbon markets, as governments and the private sector seek to meet their mandated or voluntary carbon emission targets under the Paris Agreement.

Nature-based Solutions, including forest and landscape restoration, are increasingly recognised as a mechanism with various co-benefits. By directing appropriate carbon investment to small-scale farmers, pastoralists and forest managers, community members in low-middle income countries would also benefit from increased revenue streams and improved productivity of their landscapes.

OUR APPROACH

The Alliance's principles underpin our work and speak to the organisation we strive to be.

- Empowering communities
- Accountability and transparency
- Linking local to global
- Partnership and collaboration
- Respect for all people
- Respect for nature and the environment

- Ethical standards
- Investing in people and institutions
- Multiple perspectives
- Gender equity and social inclusion
- Synergy

WHAT IS EVERGREENING?

EverGreening approaches to land restoration and carbon capture are by far the most promising, practical, and cost-effective natural solutions available to address the climate crisis and improve the livelihoods and food security of vulnerable small-scale farmers and pastoralists.

EverGreening practices incorporate trees, shrubs, and other permanent vegetation into the landscape. The concept has grown out of EverGreen Agriculture, a transformational approach for the regreening of agriculture in the 21st century.

EverGreening practices include Assisted and Farmer Managed Natural Regeneration (ANR/FMNR), the protection and management of naturally regenerating trees and shrubs from roots and seeds already present in the soil. It has proven to be exceedingly effective as a very low-cost way to restore degraded land. Building on the core strengths of the Alliance, our focus on EverGreening has broadened to include not only agricultural lands but also rangelands, wastelands, and degraded forests. EverGreening also has applications for urban and peri-urban landscapes.

EverGreening practices provide affordable and accessible Nature-based Solutions for regenerating degraded land, increasing household food production and cash income. These systems address the global challenges of food security, loss of livelihoods, rural poverty, land degradation, deteriorated biodiversity and the imperative for agriculture to adapt to and mitigate climate change.
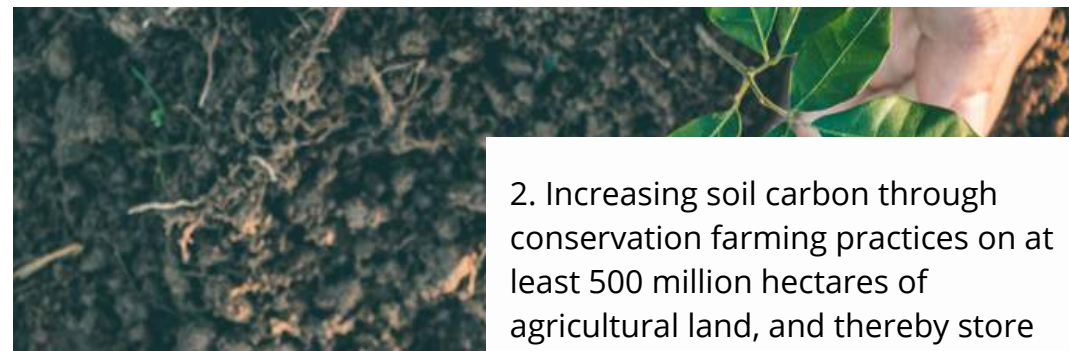
These approaches have been used effectively in farmland, rangeland, wasteland, and degraded forests to increase small-scale and vulnerable farmers' food production and cash incomes and adapt to the impacts of climate change. GEA aims to scale up proven EverGreening practices with communities around the globe.

EVERGREENING THE EARTH –
"GREEN UP TO COOL DOWN"

1. Tripling the current rate of carbon accumulation on degraded farmlands, by increasing tree cover through agroforestry, which will store at least 2.5 billion tons CO_2 per year.

2. Increasing soil carbon through conservation farming practices on at least 500 million hectares of agricultural land, and thereby store an additional 0.4 billion tons CO_2 per year.
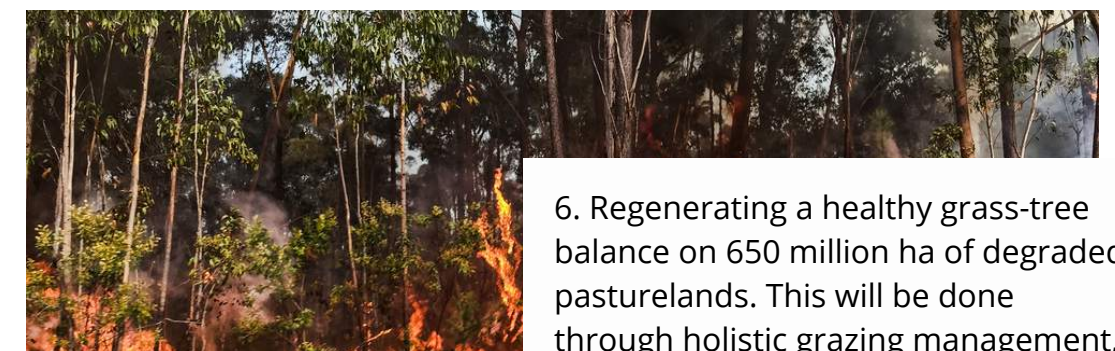
3. Scaling-up leguminous shrubs on farmlands to 350 million hectares, in order to store an additional 2.5 billion tons CO_2 per year, while increasing crop and livestock production and producing wood fuel for cooking and biomass energy.

4. Deploying carbon capture and storage from Evergreen Energy generation in biomass power plants and achieving negative emissions of 2.5 billion tons CO_2 per year.

5. Restoring tree cover on 575 million hectares of degraded forest lands to capture an additional 8.5 billion tons CO_2 per year.

6. Regenerating a healthy grass-tree balance on 650 million ha of degraded pasturelands. This will be done through holistic grazing management, pastoralist-managed natural regeneration (PMNR) and other complementary practices, to store an additional 3.6 billion tons of CO_2 per year.

KEY IMPACT AREAS

The Alliance seeks to address pressing global issues through EverGreening practices focussed on the following Key Impact Areas during the 10-year strategy period. The Alliance will hold itself accountable to its members, donors/investors, beneficiaries, and all stakeholders by measuring change against each of the Key Impact Areas according to the indicators listed; and will take an integrated, holistic approach towards addressing the challenges of restoration, climate and poverty.

- **Effective Global Partnerships** – Multi-stakeholder partnerships facilitated in Africa, Asia, Australia, Central and South America that mobilised and shared knowledge, expertise, technology and financial resources, and resulted in transformational change (SDG 17).

- **Restored Landscapes** – 18.35 million hectares of land and forests have improved ecosystem function (SDGs 13, 15).

- **Climate change mitigation** – 198m tonnes of CO2 captured and stored, or avoided (SDG 13).

- **Resilient Livelihoods** – 16 million people have increased incomes, more resilient livelihoods, and improved access to information and resources (SDGs 1, 2, 5, 13).

- **Equity and Inclusion** – 8 million women and vulnerable groups have greater access to and control over economic resources (SDG 5, 10)

HOW WE WILL DO IT

The Alliance will achieve change in the Key Impact Areas through the following mechanisms for impact. These are the main drivers of change adopted by the Alliance to achieve its goals during the strategy period.

OUR PROGRAMS AND ADVOCACY

1. Collaborative, coordinated, multi stakeholder partnerships:

- Brokering new partnerships and ways of working
- Working beyond 'Business as Usual' into new models programming, capacity building, advocacy and policy influence
- Incremental growth in Alliance membership (with a focus on national or sub-national organisations at the grassroots level)

2. Mass scaling up of successful models of resilient land restoration:

- Linking and learning from local actors on localised, successful land restoration models
- Regional programming development
- Matching global expertise with local implementation needs

3. Influencing policy and practice of decision makers and mobilising communities to act:

- Implementing the EverGreening the Earth Campaign
- Leveraging media and communications
- Developing an advocacy strategy

OUR EDUCATION/ CAPACITY BUILDING ACTIVITIES

1. Innovation and thought leadership:

- Act as an incubator to test and pilot new finance and investment models
- Develop emerging models, such as carbon credits/markets modelling, and build members' capacity on design and implementation of carbon programs
- Program and partnership approaches
- Articulating and sharing successes and best practice models

2. Strengthening capacity - for communities and members for evergreening practice adoption:

- Cross learning between communities and partners
- Embedded capacity building within programs

3. Building an evidence base for learning and improving:

- Utilisation of monitoring and evaluation systems, information management and the monitoring platform
- Research and analysis • Learning and reporting

BUILDING A STRONG AND ACCOUNTABLE ALLIANCE

1. Building and supporting the Alliance for greater influence and impact:

- Grow the number of our members and diversity of our membership
- Support active engagement and collaboration between members and create opportunities for internal networking
- Build organisational and Alliance brand awareness through targeted Media & Communications and collaborative events with Strategic Partners

2. Securing new and sustainable funding and finance:

- $300 million over five years secured through innovative/investment and grant-based funding (including co-financing, public-private partnerships, impact investments, carbon credit investments, resources-in-kind and commercial partnerships) for program implementation by implementing partners
- Supporting on-ground capacity for blended investment
- Linking investors with appropriate programs
- Working towards organisational accreditation with the Australian Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade (DFAT), and relevant Australian fundraising accreditations.

3. Building the Secretariat capacity and strengthening Alliance culture:

- Aligning staffing resources to the delivery of strategy
- Building internal organisation infrastructure by strengthening systems, policies and processes
- Advancing gender equity and diversity within our operations
- Achieving net-zero emissions

Global EverGreening Alliance

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UNITED NATIONS DECADE ON
ECOSYSTEM
RESTORATION
2021-2030

ACFID
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