



Media Advisory

## **UN to award inaugural flagship initiatives for the UN Decade on Ecosystem Restoration at the UN Biodiversity Conference (COP 15)**

13 December 2022

As reversing ecosystem degradation is key to countering the triple planetary emergency of climate change, biodiversity loss and pollution, the [United Nations Environment Programme](#) (UNEP) and the Food and Agriculture Organization of the UN (FAO) are set to name the 10 inaugural World Restoration Flagships for the [UN Decade on Ecosystem Restoration](#), the global effort to halt nature loss and restore a minimum area equivalent to the size of China by 2030.

The winning initiatives will be unveiled on **13 December 2022, 8:00am EST/ 4:00pm EAT/ 2:00pm CET** along [the UN Biodiversity Conference](#) (COP15) in Montreal at “Restoration Day” in the Rio Pavilion and a special [virtual Gala event](#) featuring actors Jason Momoa and Edward Norton, Dr. Jane Goodall, extreme mountaineer Nirmal Purja, singer Ellie Goulding, UK band Bastille, Chinese movie star Li Bingbing, World Surf League Champion Filipe Toledo, UNEP Executive Director Inger Andersen, FAO Deputy Director-General Maria Helena Semedo and British economist Sir Partha Dasgupta, among others.

You can watch the event here: <https://www.decadeonrestoration.org/stories/meet-first-10-un-world-restoration-flagships>

The first World Restoration Flagships stretch across 23 countries and across all ecosystems – from the peaks of mountains to the bottom of the ocean. Together, the 10 flagships aim to restore more than 68 million hectares – an area bigger than Myanmar, France or Somalia – and create nearly 15 million jobs.

In naming the World Restoration Flagships, the UN Decade seeks to honour the best examples of large-scale and long-term ecosystem restoration in any country or region, embodying the 10 Restoration Principles of the UN Decade on Ecosystem Restoration.

**Interested media can request for interviews and access to advance embargoed press materials (usually distributed days prior to publication) through Mr. Moses Osani ([moses.osani@un.org](mailto:moses.osani@un.org)) and the UNEP Newsdesk ([unep-newsdesk@un.org](mailto:unep-newsdesk@un.org))**

COP15 focuses on the living world through the [Convention on Biological Diversity](#) (CBD) a treaty adopted for the conservation and sustainable use of biological diversity and related issues.

For the full schedule at COP15 visit the [CBD website](#). For additional information about: [UNEP at the United Nations Biodiversity Conference \(COP15\)](#)