

**Special COFO and COAG Joint Event on Agriculture-Forestry Linkages  
on the occasion of the 174<sup>th</sup> Session of FAO Council (4-8 December 2023)**

## **Scaling up agroforestry**

**Hybrid event (Sheikh Zayed Centre, FAO headquarters and virtual)**

**Thursday, 7 December 2023 from 12:30 to 14:00 hours (CET)**

During the 28th Session of the Committee on Agriculture (COAG 28) and the 26th Session of the Committee on Forestry (COFO 26), held in 2022, the discussion of the joint item on agriculture and forestry linkages highlighted the opportunities for closer integration and synergy between the agriculture and forestry sectors. The subsequent 171<sup>st</sup> session of FAO Council requested FAO to continue actively identifying the important and mutually beneficial linkages between agriculture and forestry and scaling up its related activities in the relevant Programme Priority Areas (PPAs) of its Strategic Framework 2022-31. The COFO Steering Committee and the COAG Bureau developed a Joint Intersessional Roadmap on agriculture and forestry linkages in response to these recommendations.

In this context, FAO is organizing a special joint event with COFO and COAG on the agriculture-forestry nexus, with a thematic focus on agroforestry, during Council 174 (CL174). The event is proposed to feature the participation of the Director-General (TBC) and representatives from FAO Members; it is organized by an inter-divisional task force, composed of NFO, NSP, and the COAG and COFO Secretariats.

Agroforestry<sup>1</sup> is gaining renewed attention and importance within global policy processes today, including from FAO Members, as it can provide many solutions to global challenges. Agroforestry can enhance livelihoods in rural communities, increase food security and nutrition, generate income and alleviate poverty, help protect and sustainably manage natural resources and biodiversity, and build resilience to climate change. Despite its longstanding history and recognition of its benefits, there remain barriers in scaling up agroforestry for widespread investment, adoption, and implementation. Broader support for agroforestry, at both the policy and technical levels, is required.

This special joint event will highlight the potential of agroforestry as a cross-cutting solution to sustainably transform agrifood systems. The event is a strategic opportunity to present FAO's work on agroforestry to Members, showcase national experiences from Members and discuss ways forward for addressing the remaining barriers to agroforestry uptake.

### **Objectives**

- Highlight the potential of agroforestry as a solution for transforming agrifood systems to be more efficient, inclusive, resilient and sustainable;
- Present FAO's work and strategic support on agroforestry to its Members;

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<sup>1</sup> Agroforestry is a collective name for land management systems where woody perennials (trees, shrubs, palms, bamboos, etc.) are deliberately used on the same land-management units as agricultural crops and/or animals, in some form of spatial arrangement or temporal sequence. In agroforestry systems there are both ecological and economical interactions between the different components (Lundgren and Raintree, 1982).

- Showcase national success stories and lessons learnt on agroforestry from Members;
- Discuss ways forward for addressing barriers to scaling-up agroforestry.

## Agenda

**Moderator: Ms. Maria-Helena Semedo, Deputy Director-General of FAO**

12:30-12:40	<b>Opening remarks</b> Dr QU Dongyu, Director-General of FAO (TBC)
12:40-12:50	<b>Agroforestry's contribution to the COFO - COAG collaboration on agriculture and forestry linkages and Intersessional Roadmap towards COFO 27 and COAG 29</b> Ms Julie Emond, Chairperson of COAG (Canada) & Mr Guenter Walkner, Chairperson of COFO (Austria)
12:50-13:00	<b>Keynote presentation</b> Mr Michael Taylor, Award-winning silvopastoral farmer (Australia)
13:00-13:10	<b>Technical presentation on FAO's agroforestry work</b> Ms Elaine Springgay (Forestry Officer - Agroforestry), NFO and Mr Ivan Landers (Agricultural Officer), NSP
13:10-13:15	<b>Short video</b> Agroforestry GIAHS site, Mount Kilimanjaro
13:15-13:55	<b>Panel discussion (25 minutes)</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Australia – Mr Keiran Andrusko, Director, International Forest Policy, Department of Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry</li> <li>• Brazil – Mr Daniel Peter Beniamino, Director of the Department of Rural Environmental Management Policies, Ministry of Environment and Climate Change</li> <li>• Germany / Zambia – Mr Lars Weise, Project manager, GFA Consulting Group, Promotion of Agroforestry in Zambia</li> <li>• Lebanon - Dr Chadi H. Mohanna, Director of Rural Development and Natural Resources, Ministry of Agriculture</li> <li>• Philippines – Mr Ray Thomas Kabigting, Supervising Forest Management Specialist of the Department of Environment and Natural Resources</li> </ul>
	<b>Floor interventions (10 minutes)</b> <i>2-minute interventions</i>
13:55-14:00	<b>Closing remarks</b> Ms Beth Bechdol, Deputy Director-General of FAO