LEGACY LANDSCAPES FUND NEWSLETTER

July 2022

Words from the Board  Recent Publications  Funding News  Portfolio Updates  Events

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Dr. Heike Henn is Director for Climate, Energy and Environment at the German Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development (BMZ). Heike is the new chair of LLF's supervisory board. She has almost 30 years of experience in development policy, including nearly two decades at BMZ.

You are the newly appointed chair of LLF’s supervisory board. What are your expectations of this position?

I am really excited about this new role of mine, as I think LLF is an innovative answer to one of the key questions of our time: safeguarding biodiversity. I am looking forward to the discussions within the board on how we can jointly advance and develop this instrument which is still new.

What significance does LLF have for Germany’s international biodiversity goals?

The German government strongly supports the 30x30 goal, which aims for 30 per cent of the earth's surface to be put under protection and/or sustainable management while respecting the rights of local and indigenous communities. We hope that the COP15 on biodiversity taking place this year will commit itself to that objective. LLF is an important financial contribution towards that goal.

Will this constitute the most important German contribution to the biodiversity crisis?

I think that LLF has to be combined with many other instruments. It is without doubt important, as it protects some of the most significant biodiversity hotspots globally. But the biodiversity crisis is enormous and very serious, so LLF’s work is only one key building block of several. At the same time, we have to develop instruments for sustainable land use in non-protected areas.

What is special about LLF and how can it make a difference?

It is unique because LLF brings together different stakeholders and draws resources both from public and private sources into one coherent funding agreement. That way, LLF can offer long-term support to parks, which allows them to develop strategies that go beyond the usual three to four years. Conservation managers on the ground get a long-term perspective with reliable financial resources at their disposal and thus can do what they are supposed to do: think of solutions to ensure species are thriving, biodiversity is not further depleted, and natural services remain intact. In addition, LLF makes a difference in that it also finances strong and long-term collaboration with local communities, respecting their needs and rights, and looks at their livelihoods as well. Balancing protection and use of nature is a challenge that is tackled jointly.

Would you consider LLF’s work a success story so far?

Definitely, yes. The speed at which it was set up was ground-breaking. It’s a clear achievement to have five sites and two in the final stages as part of the LLF support scheme after one year. Plus, the first call for proposals opened and it sparked a lot of interest and high-quality...
concept notes. Very positive is also the way LLF has included partners. Yet, to call it an overall success story, LLF will have to be measured by its long-term impact on the ground. And that is yet too early to assess. But so far LLF has made an excellent start.

What kind of impact would you like to see?

There are site-specific indicators I find important: like areas under protection, how species develop, the number of households profiting from a park, the relation between the park and communities, the contribution towards climate mitigation and adaptation. These and other indicators along that line are important to measure the impact of LLF.

“The speed at which it was set up was ground-breaking. It’s a clear achievement to have five sites and two in the final stages as part of the LLF support scheme after one year”

How ambitious should LLF be, in your opinion?

The goal is to reach one billion dollars as capital for the fund by 2030. That might sound ambitious. But looking at the need to really protect the global natural heritage it is not overly ambitious. We can reach that goal if we find more contributors. Therefore I very much hope that additional partners will join LLF.

That means you will personally work to rally more support in your function at the ministry and as chair of the supervisory board?

That is one of my major tasks indeed. I am engaged in talks all the time. And we will continue to work in that direction.

So LLF is a German initiative, but is it becoming more and more international?

That is the plan. However, we at BMZ also want to facilitate the work of LLF by improving the policy side in a given country, to create an enabling environment for the protection of biodiversity. It is important to have governments that foster protection and sustainable use because they are two sides of the same coin.

Talking about goals, if we look at the immediate future, what should LLF have achieved by the end of the year?

By that time, LLF should have successfully selected more sites from the first call. Ideally we will have been able to mobilize additional funds, from public and private sources. And I hope that we will have been able to introduce LLF as an important instrument for biodiversity funding to the summit COP15. If we manage all that, it would be a good record and a solid contribution to the greater cause of saving biodiversity for the future of humankind.
2021 was quite a journey for LLF, and we are delighted to document it in full in our annual report.

The report looks at how LLF came to be and what the fund has achieved so far. We’ve put together an overview of our full grant program and ongoing grant portfolio, with descriptions of each of our pilot sites. We also provide details about our governance, operations and finance.

We are extremely excited to share the first stories from the ground at our legacy landscapes. These first-hand accounts offer an insight into the incredible work being done by LLF’s partners and those most affected by our grant program. Find out how the vicuña returned from the brink of extinction in Madidi, how tiger-proof enclosures are improving livelihoods in Gunung Leuser, and the burgeoning power of female leadership in Gonarezhou.

This latest commitment of funding brings Germany’s contribution to LLF to EUR 182.5 million and the fund’s total capital to approximately EUR 220 million.

At a press conference in May, German development minister Svenja Schulze repeated Germany’s commitment to long-term conservation financing and declared her intention to present LLF at the meeting of G7 development ministers.

Schulze stated: “Through Legacy Landscapes Fund, we help to ensure lasting protection for the world’s most valuable conservation areas, because protected areas in developing countries need reliable long-term financing and administration in order to protect the natural environment and the global climate but also in order to protect people’s livelihoods on the ground.”

Read more about the event over on our website.
Our first open call for proposals

LLF recently closed its first call for proposals and is now evaluating applications to expand its portfolio.

Our first call for proposals ran from 31 January to 30 April. Several Q&A sessions were held throughout February and March to meet with potential applicants and answer questions about the process.

We are proud to have received many high-quality concept notes, which have now entered the first stage of the selection process.

Further updates will be posted on our website in the coming months. We thank all applicants for their time and interest.

More information about our grant program can be found over on our website.

Events

Upcoming Events

LLF will have a presence at the following events in 2022. We look forward to seeing you there!

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Event Date</th>
<th>Event Name</th>
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<tr>
<td>18-23 July</td>
<td>IUCN Africa Protected Areas Congress</td>
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<td>6-7 October</td>
<td>KfW Development Finance Forum</td>
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<tr>
<td>7-18 November</td>
<td>UN Climate Change Conference (COP 27)</td>
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<tr>
<td>5-17 December</td>
<td>UN Biodiversity Conference (COP 15)</td>
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Portfolio Updates

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<tr>
<th>LEGACY LANDSCAPES</th>
<th>(Status July 2022)</th>
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<tr>
<td>Total number</td>
<td>7</td>
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<tr>
<td>Total area covered</td>
<td>72,845 km²</td>
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CONTRIBUTIONS

- Total available foundation capital: $228.1 million
- Total match funding: $35 million

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News in brief

- The second LLF Advisory Committee meeting took place on 28 June 2022.
- LLF recently had a kick-off meeting to develop, alongside a group of experts, a monitoring framework and an environmental and social management system.
- All seven of LLF’s pilot legacy landscapes have now been approved by our supervisory board.

LLF presented at Berlin Declaration event

An alliance of renowned researchers gathered to call on Germany to act urgently for global biodiversity

At an event held on 22 May at the Berlin Museum of Natural History, LLF was described by leading researchers as a powerful instrument for protecting species and carbon-rich landscapes. Christiane Laibach, board member of KfW, spoke at the event to give insight into LLF’s first year.

The event marked the presentation of a two-page paper called the “Berlin Declaration”, which urges vigorous action by Germany on the critical issue of biodiversity. Published in the name of the directors of the three Leibniz Natural History Museums, the paper argues that Germany bears special responsibility to ensure the success of the upcoming COP15 due to its current G7 presidency.

Read more about the event over on our website.